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THURSDAY APRIL 26TH, 2018

**BARRY & DISTRICT NEWS 2,979 • PENARTH TIMES 3,152 • SOUTH WALES ECHO 13,394 WESTERN MAIL 13,419**  
**GLAMORGAN GAZETTE 4,779 • WALES ON SUNDAY 8,898 • The GEM - 45,229 weekly!**

## Young stroke survivor steps out on charity walk challenge



Ollie Shearan with his mother, Nicola.

**OLLIE SHEARAN** (7), a stroke survivor from Maesteg, is set to take part in the Step Out for Stroke fundraising walk in aid of the Stroke Association at Bridgend on May 20.

Ollie was only three when he had a stroke. After being airlifted to hospital, his parents were told he might not make it through the night, but now the seven-year-old is making remarkable progress and is looking forward to sounding the horn at the start of the mile-long walk.

Step out for Stroke walks will take place across Wales from May to July 2018 to raise money for the Stroke Association to support stroke survivors and their families. Last year, the Bridgend Step Out was the most well-attended throughout the UK, with over 300 people gathering to raise funds and awareness.

Stroke is a leading cause of disability and there are almost 66,000 people in Wales living with the after effects. For stroke survivors who are taking part it is also a celebration of their first steps towards overcoming the challenges of living with stroke and regaining their independence.

Nicola, Ollie's mother, said: "He's very excited - this will be our third Step Out, and we're always supported by his teachers, friends and family."

"After the stroke, he was like a newborn baby again. But he began holding his head up on his own and steadily learned to eat and talk. It was really special when he was able to say 'Mam' again."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

## MEN'S SHED SHEDS £150 TO HELP DEMENTIA SUFFERERS



Members of Caerau Men's Shed with the cheque donated to Caerau Dementia Friendly group. Photograph by Scenic Gallery

## Man jailed after high-speed police chase

by AJ  
SICLUNA

**POLICE had to use a stinger to puncture the tyres of a vehicle and stop a driver who led them on a 30-minute chase, it was stated at Cardiff Crown Court.**

At one point, Brendan Chard (22), drove into a police car, injuring an officer, said prosecutor Eugene Egan. Chard had

travelled at speeds of up to 70mph and 60mph in a 30mph area.

Chard, of Oakwood, Garth, Maesteg, admitted charges of dangerous driving, driving without a licence and insurance, failing to stop, possessing cannabis and failing to answer to his bail.

He was jailed for 11 months and disqualified from driving for two years. He was also ordered to take an extended driving test.

Judge Timothy Petts said: "This was a prolonged and persistent course of very bad driving."

He added that Chard should not have been driving at all because he had not passed a driving test.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

CAERAU Men's Shed recently made a £150 donation to Caerau Dementia Friendly group.

Representatives from the group received lunch at the Shed and thanked them for their donation, which would be used for several trips for the group.

PD

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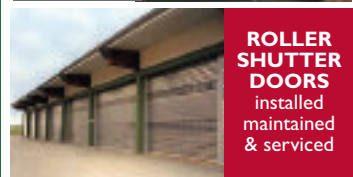
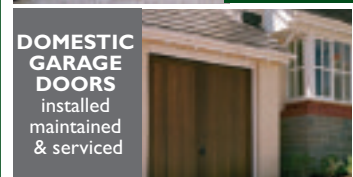
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## Bridgend Quiz League round-up



Cup winners for 2018, Tondy Railway Club.  
Photo by Julian Rodgers



The 2018 Plate winners, Five Bells A, receive their trophy.

ON April 16, the Cup and Plate Finals, and the AGM of the Bridgend Quiz League, were held at Penybont AFC club house, Bryntirion.

In the Cup competition, Laleston Inn A had quite a slow start but rallied and overhauled their opponents Tondy Railway Club, with tension rising it could have gone either way, losing on the very last question by the slimmest of margins, 62-60.

The Plate was another closely fought local derby match with the Five Bells A overcoming Cabo Roche by 53-46.

Matches in the quiz league take place throughout the borough on Mondays from October to early April, and a warm welcome awaits any new team wishing to join. Details can be found at [bridgendquiz.com](http://bridgendquiz.com).

Cup winners 2018, Tondy Railway Club; Hywel Matthews, Philip Eynon, Andrea Kingscott and Robert Penny.

Plate winners 2018, Five Bells A: Alun

Tingle, Roger Carey, David Parsons and David Bate.

Here are this week's teasers from the Bridgend Quiz League:

1. What subterranean river flows under Buckingham Palace?
2. What would you have if you had a 'Dandie Dimont'?
3. For what type of art was Salvadore Dali famous?

SK

Answers:  
1. The Tyburn.  
2. A dog.  
3. Surrealism.

## Zumbathon fundraiser raises funds for Cancer Research UK



Instructor Andy Burnett and assistant Rhian Thomas with the Zumbathon participants. Photo by Scott Walters

**MORE than 90 members took to the dance floor at Bridgend Life Centre Zumbathon for Cancer Research UK.**

It was hosted by Andy Burnett, who led the two-hour Zumbathon for Cancer Research UK assisted by Rhian Thomas (manager of Halo Leisure Bridgend).

The event was well attended with a raffle with prizes donated from local businesses, with refreshments from the Halo Sports Foundation.

Organiser and fitness instructor Andy said: "The atmosphere was electric and everyone who took part pushed themselves to the max. It was

wonderful to see so many people coming together to Zumba and raise money for such a great cause."

The event raised over £2,000 for Cancer Research UK with £100 raised from refreshments.

Andy would like to thank all those who participated, spectated, donated and sponsored the event and he hopes to organise another event like this one soon.

The Race For Life will be making its way to Bridgend's Newbridge Fields on Sunday, June 3.

For more information and to sign up for the Race For Life, visit [www.raceforlife.cancerresearchuk.org](http://www.raceforlife.cancerresearchuk.org).



'Mr Motivator' Andy Burnett.  
Photo by Scott Walters.

## Praise for MPs on anti-Semitism

**MP Chris Elmore has congratulated two fellow MPs on their stance against anti-Semitism.**

The Ogmore MP paid tribute to Labour MPs Ruth Smeeth and Luciana Berger for seeking to stamp out anti-Jewish sentiment in the UK. Ms Smeeth and Ms Berger received standing ovations in the Commons after speaking about their own experiences of anti-Semitic abuse.

In a *New Statesman* piece from last month, Ms Smeeth said: "From the defence of Holocaust deniers and support for anti-Semitic terror groups, to the consistent failure to deal with the likes of Ken Livingstone, there is now a total breakdown of trust between the community I was born into and the party I am proud to represent."

### HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MAY 3)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
26 Thur	04.23	8.6	16.59	8.7
27 Fri	05.24	9.1	17.54	9.2
28 Sat	06.15	9.5	18.39	9.6
29 Sun	06.58	9.8	19.19	10.0
30 Mon	07.37	10.1	19.58	10.0
01 Tues	08.15	10.0	20.32	9.8
02 Wed	08.47	9.8	21.04	9.6
03 Thur	09.19	9.5	21.38	9.3

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

If you have a complaint, write to us at the address below, left, or call Gareth Jamieson on 01446 774484. All complaints will be fully investigated. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may wish to contact IPSO, Gate House, 1 Farringdon Street, London EC4M 7LG

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Enquiries: [inquiries@ipso.co.uk](mailto:inquiries@ipso.co.uk).

## NO PASS, NO SCHOOL BUS FOR BRYNTEG PUPILS

**A 'No pass, no travel' scheme is being trialled on Brynteg School buses this summer term - aiming to improve safety on school transport by reducing overcrowding.**

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) is piloting the scheme - which may also then be introduced in other secondary schools - as transport contractors have reported on numerous occasions that the amount of pupils boarding their coaches are exceeding the number who are eligible.

This has resulted in vehicles being overcrowded, leading to some "behavioural issues" on the buses and concerns over safety.

Starting this week, only Brynteg School pupils who show a valid local authority home-to-school bus pass to the driver on every journey will be allowed to travel.

The bus pass must have a valid expiry date and the route number must match that of the bus they are

catching.

Cllr Charles Smith, the council's cabinet member for education and regeneration said: "We provide home-to-school transport to several thousand eligible pupils each day across the county borough, but have been concerned by safety issues reported in relation to overcrowding.

"Therefore, we are piloting a 'No pass, no travel' scheme" this term at Brynteg to tackle the problem, and would welcome support from parents and pupils."

Any Brynteg School pupil who does not have a valid bus pass should contact the council's school transport team on 01656 642654 or email [schooltransport@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:schooltransport@bridgend.gov.uk)

Any pupil who loses their bus pass will be able to ask for a temporary 10 day pass from the Brynteg school office.

## Macular Support Group meets

**A MAESTEG-based support group, which helps to increase the confidence and independence of people affected by macular degeneration, will hold its next meeting on Monday, May 14.**

The Maesteg Macular Support Group, which is organised by leading sight loss charity the Macular Society in partnership with local people, will meet from 10.30am to 12.30pm at the Heritage Suite, Maesteg Health and Wellbeing Centre, Hartshorn House, Neath Road, Maesteg CF34 9EE.

The group meet at the same time and location on the second Monday of every month, offering information, encouragement and friendship to people who are affected by macular disease.

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) affects the central vision and is the most common cause of sight loss in the UK, affecting more than 600,000 people. More people are affected as our population ages.

For more information about the Maesteg Macular Support Group, contact Adele Francis on 01639 843236, 07494 468007, or email [adele.francis@macularsociety.org](mailto:adele.francis@macularsociety.org).

## The Glamorgan GEM • Contact us...

Tel: 01446 774484 • Fax: 01446 774108

FACEBOOK: GlamorganGEM / TWITTER: gem\_news • GEMSportNews

General Manager: [jan.irving@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:jan.irving@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

News Submissions: [editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

Editorial enquiries: [gareth.jamieson@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:gareth.jamieson@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

Tim Chapman [tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk) / TWITTER @TimGlamorganGEM

Philip Irwin [philip.irwin@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:philip.irwin@glamorgan-gem.co.uk) / TWITTER @PhilipGlamGEM

Andy Johnstone [andy.johnstone@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:andy.johnstone@glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

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# Councillor highlights rising numbers of children in foster care

**THE rising numbers of children going into care has been branded "a national disgrace" by a Bridgend councillor who is urging Ministers to "get involved" and act on the issue.**

Between 2016-2017, the overall numbers of children in care across Wales increased by 5.5 per cent.

Of the 17 local authorities that had shown increases, seven were over 10 per cent, of which three were over 15 per cent and one (Anglesey) at 30 per cent.

While Bridgend had an increase of 2.2 per cent for the year, it was the fourth highest in Wales for the number of looked after children per 10,000 population.

At an Overview and Scrutiny committee meeting at Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) on Monday, April 16, officers said there were almost 400 children currently being looked after in care across the county, the majority placed with foster carers.

Speaking at the meeting, Cllr Martyn Jones who represents the Bettws ward, said: "Looked after children and the factors that are involved with it are out

of our control.

"It's been presented to us on more than one occasion that it's becoming a national issue.

"If we stuck out like a sore thumb amongst the 22 authorities it could be asked what are we doing locally. However the trend is telling us, on a national level, the numbers of looked after children are increasing, it's becoming a national problem."

He added: "We talked about targeted intervention in one local authority (Neath Port Talbot) - is it the current practice of Welsh Government to fireproof each authority or is somebody down there going to stand back and say 'hang on a minute, we've got an issue across Wales here, how can we deal with the issues and how can we support the 22 local authorities?'"

"There are a number of ministers that should get involved - Vaughan Gething in Health, for example, Children's minister Huw Irranca-Davies and Alun Davies, the minister for communities.

"It's a national disgrace of the number of kids that are going into care at the moment, it's absolutely disgraceful. This conversation could be replicated 21 times across Wales.

"This is my fifth year in this chamber. For five years we have been talking about the rising numbers and it doesn't seem to be going down, it's only going up."

Officers told

councillors there were a number of "early intervention" programmes in place to help tackle the issue.

The council has developed a new 'Baby in Mind' service that focuses on support for parents during the pre-birth period and the first six months of a baby's life while the Reflect Service is another new service which works with mothers who have had children removed from their care.

In August 2017, a Rapid Response Team started which involves staff offering intensive support for a four to six week period with the main aim of preventing children becoming looked after or to enable them to return home to family following a period in care.

Councillors on the scrutiny committee agreed to write a letter to ministers to raise their concerns.

A Welsh Government spokesman said: "The Welsh Government recognises the pressures being placed on local authorities.

"That's why we have taken action to strengthen early intervention and preventative action to reduce the numbers of children coming into care."

"Local authorities have a statutory responsibility for looked after children, and as corporate parents should be working to reduce numbers whilst improving outcomes for those children already in care."

LDR



## Mayor is the guest as club celebrates first birthday

**CLLR PAM DAVIES, the Mayor of Bridgend County Borough, and her consort, were guests of honour at the Young at Heart Club, in the Westward Community Centre where 51 members and guests celebrated the club's first anniversary with a fantastic buffet.**

On April 21, 2017, the club opened the doors to the YAH club for the

over-50s. On that first day, 19 members joined the club, and in just a year the club has grown to 54.

All the members are looking forward to another fun-packed year with more coach trips, guest speakers, many different activities and the usual refreshments and raffle prizes.

YAH meets every Friday, 2pm to 3.30pm at the Westward Community Centre, Cefn Glas, Bridgend CF31 4JR. New members always made very welcome.

## 'Why are council tax bills higher in Bridgend?'

**THE Welsh Government has been asked why people in Bridgend are having to pay higher council tax bills at a time when council services are being cut.**

Caroline Jones, UKIP AM for South West Wales, asked finance secretary Mark Drakeford what assessment the government has made of the impact of the tax increases on her constituents.

People in Bridgend have been hit by a 4.5 per cent increase in their council tax bills - lower than the 4.9 per cent increase in Swansea, but higher than the 3.7 per cent increase in Neath Port Talbot.

Ms Jones said: "At the same time as my constituents are forced to pay these inflation-busting rises, wages are only rising by half these amounts.

"How can these increases be justified when services are being cut?"

"How can we justify asking my constituents to pay out more of their dwindling income for fewer bin collections, unrepaid roads, broken street lights and service cuts?"

Mr Drakeford said democratically-elected

local authorities are responsible for setting council tax levels, and they are answerable to local people for the decisions they make.

He told Ms Jones: "The Welsh Government has launched a campaign to increase the take-up of our council tax reduction scheme, which supports low-income households."

He said justification for the bill increases lies in the impact of eight years of UK Government austerity on public service budgets in Wales - eight years in which the money available to the Welsh Government and local authorities to do vital work has been cut.

Mr Drakeford said: "Local authorities of all persuasions think very hard about the impact their decisions have on their local population.

"At least here in Wales, the least well-off households have the comfort of knowing that they do not pay council tax.

"Across the border in England, over two million of the poorest households are having to make substantial contributions for local public services - not out of their not-rising incomes but their frozen benefit incomes."

MICHAEL PROSSER

## NRW raising flood awareness

**NATURAL Resources Wales (NRW) were going door to door in Bridgend this week to provide practical advice and information to the public on how they can prepare, respond and recover to reduce the impacts of a flood.**

Bridgend is located near the River Omore and currently has over 852 properties at risk of flooding.

The event took place from April 24-26 with NRW staff visiting over 300 properties that have yet to sign up to the free flood warning service.

During these visits, staff planned to talk to residents about community and business flood plans and the importance of checking that your insurance will cover you for flooding.

They were also promoting the benefits of

signing up to receive flood warnings which can be received via text email or over the phone.

Ffion Edwards, flood incident management advisor for NRW, said: "Flooding can have a devastating impact, causing many thousands of pounds worth of damage, and untold emotional distress.

"Community flood plans are an excellent opportunity for people to work with each other to build community resilience and can act as a springboard for other beneficial community activities.

"This is one of many engagement days we have planned around Wales and we're hoping more and more people will see the benefits of signing up to our flood warning system."

To register for flood warnings, check flood maps or for more information, visit: [www.naturalresources.wales/flooding](http://www.naturalresources.wales/flooding).

The event consists of 10K & 5K multi-terrain trail routes, & a 1K family fun run.

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## Another bank closes, but two Post Offices open

**CALLS** have been made to make sure that businesses are not left without support once a local bank branch closes on **Bridgend Industrial Estate**.

Following the announcement by Lloyds that it will close its branch on the industrial estate later this year, Suzy Davies AM has been in contact with the Post Office to make sure that it can assist in the bank's place.

Mrs Davies said: "I am disappointed that yet another bank branch is closing in the Bridgend area as it seems to be one after another at the moment."

"While I have written to Lloyds asking for it to explain its reasons for closing a well-used branch with good parking that has so many business customers, I have also been in discussions with the Post Office to see if it can step in and help."

"The Post Office has confirmed to me that its branch on the Industrial Estate provides a full range of personal and small business banking services for account holders with all major UK banks."

"In particular, it has confirmed that, for Lloyds customers, the Post Office provides cash withdrawal and deposit services as well as



**Suzy Davies AM at Bridgend Industrial Estate's Lloyds Bank and Post Office.**

cheque deposits and balance enquiries.

"The only service that the Industrial Estate Post Office does not provide at the moment is a business change-giving facility."

"However, I have had it confirmed that this will be in place before the end of the year."

"I have asked Lloyds to state when it plans to close the branch so that I can see if more work is required to make sure that local businesses will not be left without the full range of services that they need."

The Industrial Estate Post Office branch is located immediately next to Lloyds Bank just off David Street at the heart of Bridgend Industrial Estate.

This news comes in the same week that two other areas have seen Post Office facilities return.

Both Coytrahen and Llangeinor, where Post Office has previously removed services, will soon be seeing Post Offices return.

Mrs Davies said: "I welcome the return of these important Post Office facilities to Coytrahen and Llangeinor."

"While the Post Office are looking for permanent new locations for these two services it is right that they have chosen to not leave local residents without the facilities that Post Offices provide for communities."

Residents can access the new Coytrahen Post Office service each Tuesday between 11am and 1pm while the Llangeinor facility will be accessible every Thursday from 11am until 1pm.

CRD

## CHURCHYARD CLEANUP TO TAKE PLACE AT ST ILLTYD'S CHURCH

**ST ILLTYD'S Church in Newcastle, Bridgend, is holding two events in May.**

On Saturday, May 12 beginning at 9.30am, is a churchyard clean up.

Father David Lloyd said: "Anyone from the parish, whether a churchgoer or not, is welcome to come and help tidy the grounds of this wonderful Grade-II listed church."

"If you have your own equipment, such as secateurs, hedge trimmers, brooms, rakes, garden waste bags, and gloves – so much the better, but there are lots of jobs to do, such as making tea and coffee, and providing a bit of moral support."

The second event requires less

effort.

Fr David said: "It's a 'Poems, Pints, and Pasties' night on Friday, May 18, at Westward Community Centre starting at 7pm."

"Tickets are £5 and include a selection of pasties and a pint (well, cans of ale, lager, cider, or a soft drink), but you have to provide your own poem. Nothing too, risqué, please: children may be there!"

"Again, you don't need to be a churchgoer to attend, but these have been great nights in the past, so warm up your dramatic skills, and we'll entertain each other in verse."

For more information, call 01656 655999, or search for @saintillydbridgend on Facebook.

## Bridgend pupil scoops top prize at High Sheriff's awards evening



**Nora Hardy with High Sheriff David Davies and Anne Morgan.**



**The chair of the awards panel, Jayne James.**



**Paul Hales of Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, with this year's High Sheriff, Jon Wall, looking on.**



**Corey Cox receives his award.**

**A SEVENTEEN-year-old pupil from Bryntirion Comprehensive School has won the first prize of £1,000 for her work in the community.**

Nora Hardy was presented with the individual honour at the annual High Sheriff awards ceremony. Nora,

described as "an exceptional pupil," has worked closely with the fostering agency Calon Cymru.

She also promotes the Children's Liver Disease Foundation and produced an online video. As a result of her work, the school was awarded a 'type 1 diabetes award'.

Nora, who didn't attend school until the age of nine, has gained nine GCSEs and is currently studying for five A-Levels, was also awarded the Community Star prize award for £200 by the founder of the Awards, Anne Morgan, at Bridgend-based company Ortho Clinical Diagnostics last month.

The High Sheriff Community Youth Awards are now in their tenth year, where prizes and certificates are presented to groups and individuals across Mid Glamorgan for their outstanding work in the community.

Hosted by the High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan, David Davies, the guest speaker was BBC News correspondent Sian Lloyd, who gave a talk about her career, followed by a buffet

provided by this year's sponsor at their offices at Pencoe Technology Park.

The Awards chairman, former High Sheriff Jayne James, commented on the standard of entries: "It's the young people who are the most important guests; they should be immensely proud of themselves for all the amazing things they are doing for the community."

Corey Cox (11) was one of the individual prize winners. He attends Cynffig Comprehensive school and despite suffering from Perthes disease since the age of three, he is a passionate fundraiser and is currently helping to buy a specialist bike to aid physiotherapy at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

For further information on the High Sheriff Awards and how to apply, visit [www.south-wales.police.uk](http://www.south-wales.police.uk); follow High Sheriff Awards on facebook: @highsheriffmidglamorgan; or email the awards administrator: [highsheriffmidglamorganawards@gmail.com](mailto:highsheriffmidglamorganawards@gmail.com).

YH

## Porthcawl Walk for Life this Sunday

**THE Walk for Life event is set to return to Porthcawl this month, with the walk scheduled for Sunday, April 29.**

The walk will begin at The Seagull Inn, West Park Drive at 11am, before heading onto the sea front, the coastal path and the lifeboat station and then looping back.

The location of the walk means that participants will get the opportunity to take in some of the most beautiful views on the south Wales coast.

Over 30 years old, the Walk for Life is one of Kidney Wales' longest running events and is a key element of the charity's strategy for raising funds for taking on the challenges of life with kidney disease.

The walk is to be led by local fundraiser, Jean Schofield, alongside Judith French.

Jean's passion for supporting Kidney Wales comes from a very personal experience, after she donated her own kidney to her son Mark, a former UK surfing champion, in 1990.

Mark and Jean share the same rare blood type, making her a perfect donor. However, the experience made her aware of just how important greater public understanding is of the effects that kidney disease can have on an individual.

Alongside being an organiser for the

Walk for Life, Jean has played a role in organising numerous events to fundraise for Kidney Wales, including a recent silent auction that raised more than £500.

Her exploits have seen her receive a British Empire Medal, in acknowledgement to her outstanding contribution to the field of kidney research.

Kidney Wales director Nic Clarke said: "We'd like to thank all those taking part in the Walk for Life in Porthcawl."

"These annual events, held across Wales by local supporters, help us to raise awareness of kidney diseases and the work our charity does throughout the year to improve the lives of kidney patients and their families, by improving the standard of care and life-saving treatments right here in Wales."

"We are a Welsh charity and every penny that is raised through our Walk for Life events will go towards helping kidney patients right here in Wales."

Further information on the Porthcawl Walk for Life is available at <https://www.kidneywales.cymru/get-involved/find-an-event/porthcawl-walk-life>.

SK

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# Council says new online service will make life easier for residents

A new website and 'My Account' facility aims to make it easier for people to access council services in Bridgend county borough from April 24.

A Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) spokesperson said: "Residents no longer have to queue or wait on the telephone to make payments or request council services, thanks to the new site which has been developed following feedback from 87 per cent of people who said they wanted better, faster and more interactive online services."

"Designed to be easily viewed and used on devices that range from smartphones and tablets to PCs and laptops, the website is fully accessible and user-friendly, and features improved search facilities and online forms."

"It also features a round-the-clock online hub called 'My Account' which makes it quick and easy for people to do council-related tasks, 24 hours a day."

"This includes things like viewing a council tax bill, applying for housing benefit, requesting discounts and exemptions, making online payments, setting up and managing direct debits, subscribing to e-billing and much more."

"As My Account develops, it will be expanded to enable people to do things like report potholes, apply for places at local schools, pay for school meals and

let the authority know about faulty street lights."

"To use the new service, residents simply need to visit [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk) and register for an account using their email address."

Council Leader Huw David said: "The launch of our new accessible website and secure My Account service gives people greater choice and freedom in deciding how they want to contact and do business with the council."

"It offers far greater versatility and convenience, and lets people choose when, where and how they wish to access services."

"Registration is fast, easy and secure, and I hope that people will take full advantage of the benefits that My Account offers."

Deputy Leader Hywel Williams added: "The new website and My Account reflect how we are finding innovative solutions to the ongoing challenges faced by local government."

"It will help generate savings, especially if people use My Account to opt for e-billing instead of using the more traditional 'bill in the post' method."

You can see the new website and sign up to My Account by visiting [www.bridgend.gov.uk](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk)

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## Lions' record-breaking spectacle!

**MEMBERS of the Porthcawl Lions Club and their Leos (Porthcawl Comprehensive pupils) took part in a world record-breaking attempt together with other Lions Clubs recently.**

The challenge was to exceed the world record for a line of used spectacles, the current record being 16,400 held by a group in Japan.

The spectacles came from opticians and hospitals throughout the UK. Together with colleagues from other Lions clubs and support from youth

organisations, the challenge was met and the number assembled came to just over 21,000.

There was a time limit to the attempt and the total of spectacles available on the day touched 36,000. The spectacles collected will be recycled in the Lion depots in France and England and are will then be sent all over the world to benefit those in need.

Porthcawl Lions are looking forward to the summer months with the start of their monthly book sales on Saturday, April 28 in John Street, Porthcawl.

The weekly car boot sale at Porthcawl Rugby ground on Sunday, May 6 takes place from 8am to 1pm.

On Monday, May 7, all are welcome at All Saints Church, Victoria Avenue from 11am until 4pm for the Lions May Fayre with stalls, games and other attractions for all the family including a dog show and the teddy bears' picnic.

Further details of events are available on the Lions website, [porthcawllions.org](http://porthcawllions.org)

DR

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Regular Saver	£25 - £500 per calendar month	£25 - £500 per calendar month	2.50%
90 Day Notice	£5,000	£1	1.10%
Cash ISA	£1	£1	1.10%
Cash JISA	£1	£1	2.00%
Young Saver	£1	£1	2.00%
First Adult Saver (only available to customers aged 18 to 32 years old)	£1	£1	1.25%

(Please Note the Swan Premier account no longer exists and all existing accounts have been transferred to the Personal Premier account)

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\* AER Stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and illustrates what the interest rate would be if interest was paid and added each year.  
 \* GROSS The Gross rate is the contractual rate of interest before the deduction of income tax.

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# A very close run thing in society's mono match-up



Judge Dennis Russ (left) presenting Geoff Baker with the trophy.



'Roll of Honour'.



'Ogmore Castle'.

**THE Pyle & Porthcawl Photographic Society recently held the annual Alan Thomas Memorial Competition, where each member can enter up to four digital images and/or prints, mono only, no colour.**

The winner was the member with the highest total from their two highest ages and skill levels, so if you have an interest in photography, why not join us on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm at St Clare's School, Newton CF36 5NR.

The next step was to include their third highest entries to establish the winner. However, it was still a tie so it

was on to the fourth entry and Geoff Baker won by just two points.

Dennis Russ was our judge and as usual his unique humour and personality made it a very entertaining evening.

Our programme is available at [www.pyle-porthcawl-ps.co.uk](http://www.pyle-porthcawl-ps.co.uk).

We welcome new members of all ages and skill levels, so if you have an interest in photography, why not join us on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm at St Clare's School, Newton CF36 5NR.

**Geoff Baker**  
(Competition secretary)  
(Pyle & Porthcawl Photographic Society)



Pendine Hot Rod.



'As High as an Elephant's Eye'.

## How the 'Beast from the East' wreaked havoc on the borough's sports pavilions

**REPAIRS are progressing well on five sports pavilions in Bridgend county borough that remain closed for repairs following severe storm damage last month.**

When the 'Beast from the East' and Storm Emma hit our shores in early March, plummeting temperatures caused pipes to freeze and burst, leading to extensive water damage at Cae Gof Bowls Pavilion, Cae Gof Sports Pavilion, Felindre Road Pavilion, Heol y Cyw Pavilion, Llangenor Pavilion and Llangynwyd Pavilion.

A Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) spokesperson said: "Although the sports pitches at each site have remained playable, the pavilions suffered from damaged ceilings, waterlogged walls and flooded electrical fittings.

"Thankfully, the pavilion in Llangenor fared better than most and has since re-opened, while workers from the council's building maintenance team are making every effort to dry out and refurbish the Felindre Road Pavilion in Pencoeed and the Heol Y Cyw Pavilion so that they can be back in action in May.

"The Llangynwyd playing fields pavilion on Maesteg Road should be dry enough to commence remedial works in May which will include

plastering, ceiling works and painting.

"Various carpentry work is required and electrical fittings also need to be reinstated. The pavilion is estimated to be ready for use towards the end of July if everything goes to plan.

"In Cefn Cribwr, similar works are required at both the Cae Gof Bowls Pavilion and the Cae Gof Sports Pavilion. A burst pipe in the attic of the sports pavilion flooded the two floors below, meaning that the ceilings, vinyl floor and floor boards all sustained significant damage. Both buildings are expected to re-open in July.

"The Cae Gof rugby and football pitches are still available to use, while the bowls green will be available from the beginning of the bowls season."

Cllr Richard Young, cabinet member for communities, said: "The 'Beast from the East' certainly had some bite, with the severe weather causing unprecedented damage to a number of sports pavilions in the county borough in addition to several schools.

"Staff are working hard to make these important facilities safe to use and back in action as soon as possible, and we'd like to thank sports teams and regular users of the pavilions for their understanding while these vital repairs are carried out. We will be issuing further updates as the repairs progress."

## Hearing aid support service launched in Pyle

**A NEW service to support deaf and hard of hearing people in Pyle has been launched by the charity Action on Hearing Loss Cymru.**

The Hear to Help service will enable people to receive free NHS hearing aid repairs. This will be provided by volunteers trained by local audiology departments – many of whom will be hearing aid users themselves.

The award-winning project, which is running in conjunction with Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Health

Board, also has monthly clinics running in Pencoeed and can also assist people with mobility issues in their own homes. The charity is also looking for new volunteers to expand the service into more areas.

Rebecca Woolley, director of Action on Hearing Loss Cymru said: "We are absolutely delighted to be opening in Pyle. The project provides life-changing support for NHS hearing aid users of all ages."

The first group takes place at Pyle Library on Saturday April 28 from 10am to 12pm and will be held on the fourth Saturday of every month.

For information on all local clinics or volunteering, go to [actiononhearingloss.org.uk/wales](http://actiononhearingloss.org.uk/wales)

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## RAF Air Cadets assist local RAF association

**CADET ROBERTS, Cadet Sgt McKean from 2426 Pencoed squadron and Cadet Griffiths from 2117 Kenfig Hill squadron Royal Air Force Air Cadets went go-karting at Team Sports Indoor Karting facility in Cardiff recently.**

They were rewarded for being the highest collectors in 2017 for the Royal Air Force Association Wings Appeal.

Porthcawl and Kenfig RAFA branch also presented the Ken Maund Cup to 2426 Pencoed Royal Air Force Air Cadets for being the squadron that collected

the highest amount overall.

Both Squadrons helped raise more than £2,000 for the appeal.

The Wings Appeal is the RAF Association's on-going fundraising campaign that runs throughout the year and helps raise the vital funds needed to support serving and former serving RAF personnel and their families, whenever they are in need.

The association helps, whether it's an injured airman fighting to get back onto his feet, a young child missing their parent away on overseas operations or a World War Two veteran needing a shoulder to lean on.

KG



## Local people name new developments



Jayne Taylor, Sally Hallett and Anne Szopa have each won vouchers after the names they suggested were chosen for the new Extra Care development in Ynysawdre.

**TWO new Extra Care developments under construction in Maesteg and Ynysawdre have been named by the local community.**

The new schemes, which are being built in partnership by Linc Cymru and Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) will provide a total of 45 Extra Care apartments for older people.

Extra Care facilities enable tenants to live within their own apartments fitted with all the equipment they need to remain safe and independent, while also having on site access to round-the-clock support.

Taking shape on the site of the former Maesteg Lower Comprehensive, the Maesteg scheme will be named 'TŶ Llwynderw'.

It will feature 20 Extra Care apartments, 10 residential care rooms and a range of communal facilities including dining room, lounge, laundry room, salon, activity rooms and communal gardens. The site also includes 17 bungalows for older people.

The suggested name was put forward by local resident Barry Waters in honour of the town's

former Llwynderw secondary modern school, which he attended.

The Maesteg development is being built by Morganstone, while Jehu are the contractors working on the Ynysawdre scheme which will feature 25 Extra Care apartments, 15 residential care rooms and a range of communal facilities.

The scheme is being developed on the site of the former Archbishop McGrath School on land next to Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen and the new Brynmenyn Primary School. Nineteen affordable family homes are also being built at the site.

The public were invited to get involved by submitting names for the Ynysawdre development that were local, modern and Welsh.

The winning entry to name the road was Jayne Taylor's suggestion of 'LŌn Derw', which translates as 'Oak Lane'. She thought of the name because of the oak trees which used to grow around the old school, and said: 'I think the name is nice because from little acorns, big oak trees grow, and that represents the old school.'

Joint winners of the Extra Care scheme's name were Sally Hallett

and Anne Szopa, who named it 'TŶ Ynysawdre'.

Sally said: "We knew this area was Ynysawdre Farm before any buildings were on it, so we decided to stick with that name. It will be nice to know that the name will live on."

Jayne, Sally and Anne each won vouchers for their ideas.

CLlr Phil White, BCBC's cabinet member for social services and early help, said: "Extra Care facilities are designed to better meet people's changing needs as they grow older while making sure that they can live independently and remain active for as long as possible."

"These two new major developments will offer huge benefits for local people as part of our ongoing plans for modernising residential care services."

Waiting lists for both new Extra Care schemes are now being prepared ahead of the facilities opening their doors in late 2018/early 2019. Applicants wishing to find out more about the eligibility criteria and to add their names to the waiting lists are advised to call Linc Cymru on 029 2047 4030 or 029 2047 4754.

## Brynteg Comprehensive School news round-up



Brynteg pupils perform at the eisteddfod.

**BRYNTEG Comprehensive School held its school eisteddfod on March 14-15.**

The talent on display from pupils was outstanding and the acts included plenty of variety: singing, acting, dancing and recitals.

On March 9, a number of year-8 and year-9 pupils took part the south Wales final of the F1 in Schools competition. There were three entry teams and six awards were given to Brynteg School in various categories.

One team went on to compete in the F1 national final held on March 19 in Silverstone. Pupils exhibited their designs and marketing skills through a series of presentations and racing and were rewarded with the 'judges' recommendation' award for their overall performance and quality. What an achievement!

In other news, the Bear Creek rugby team from Canada visited Brynteg School in March with Brynteg pupils acting as hosts.

The Canadians had a fantastic experience staying with the pupils and making friends for life. The rugby was interesting and closely fought, with all players gaining valuable experience.

J L DAVIES

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Brass Band**  
THE Vale of Glamorgan Brass Band will be presenting their spring concert at Evenlode Primary School, Penarth CF64 3PD next Monday, April 30 at 7.15pm.

The band will be featuring the pupils of Evenlode, Victoria and Sully Schools learning brass instruments under the title, 'Brass in the Class'.

Tickets (£4) or (£7 family) from Evenlode School or Pencerdd Music, Penarth on 02920 709982 or can be bought on the door.

**Charity plant sale**  
ROTARY Club of Barry hold a charity plant sale in Brynhill Golf Club car park on Saturday, April 28 from 10am to 3pm.

Plants provided by John Shapland (formerly Broad Street Garden Centre). All Welcome.



Brynteg students collect their F1 in Schools awards.



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## Treble triumph for Llanmoor Homes

THE family-run housing construction company, Llanmoor Homes, is celebrating after been recognised at the Local Authority Building Control's Regional Building Excellence Awards.

Run from its headquarters in Talbot Green, Llanmoor Homes

has development sites across south Wales and prides itself on offering modern, spacious and energy efficient homes.

The Local Authority Building Control organisation represents local authority building control teams, which ensure developments meet the essential construction regulations under Welsh building requirements

Run yearly, the LABC Regional Building Excellence Awards celebrate the successes and quality of building projects across the UK and Llanmoor is pleased to have been awarded Large Volume Housing Development for its Pentre Felin, Tondy (Bridgend) and Padfield Court, Tonyrefail (Rhondda Cynon Taff) developments.

Llanmoor is also celebrating the achievements of site manager, Mark Thomas, who has been nominated for the 'Best Construction Professional' while managing a development in Newport.

Tim Grey, director of Llanmoor Homes said: "Mark is an enthusiastic and hard-working member of staff and following his success in the NHBC 'Pride in the Job' regional awards for the previous two years, this latest nomination goes to show his commitment to ensuring the sites are developed to the highest standard, and we all wish him well with the shortlisting process.

"It is also pleasing to see the successes of Pentre Felin and Padfield Court recognised by the wider industry, both sites having proved popular with home buyers in their respective areas."

## Bridgend College's high score in student satisfaction awards

**BRIDGEND College have been crowned winners of the FE category of the 'What Uni' Student Choice Awards 2018.**

The award ceremony was held at the Brewery in London on April 19 and was attended by members of staff. The college was up against FE Colleges from around the UK.

Three new categories were introduced for this year's awards, one being the Further Education College category. As the first to win this prestigious award, Bridgend College is proud to be a flagship college for further education in Wales, as well as for the UK.

'What Uni' is the most comprehensive course comparison site in the UK and guides potential students from their initial research to deciding their final choices.

Over the last year, the team have collected over 36,000 student reviews by conducting campus visits and collating information from social media posts and mail shots.



One student reviewer commended the college by saying: "They have helped me get where I need to be in my chosen career. I have received plenty of support throughout and I couldn't fault the staff."

The award is an annual celebration of student satisfaction in higher education and is completely student-led.

Bridgend College are extremely proud to be representing Wales in this category, and are delighted that our students feel that the college is worthy of such a prestigious award.

CT

## Bridgend soil analysis company granted UKAS accreditation

**SOCOTEC, formerly ESG, is pleased to confirm that it has been granted UKAS accreditation for asbestos in soil analysis at its Bridgend site in south Wales.**

The accreditation follows investment by Socotec in a newly-equipped soils laboratory at Bridgend, providing further capacity to supplement the existing soils laboratory in Bretby, Burton on Trent.

The company delivers a full suite of asbestos consultancy and project management services, including surveying, air monitoring, clearance inspections and sample analysis.

Despite the substance being banned for use in construction in 1999 in the UK, asbestos can be present in many buildings constructed before 2000, as well as within soils in brownfield sites.

With a greater emphasis from the Government on the development of brownfield sites over recent years, Socotec's asbestos services team has seen a significant surge in client requests for analysis of soil samples, to identify possible asbestos fibre contamination.

David Birkin, regional manager, said: "While the presence of asbestos in soils poses no immediate threat if managed correctly, it remains a serious issue throughout the UK."

With 25 staff working in the Bridgend site, the team managed by David Birkin is one of the largest in south Wales, having grown by 31 per cent since January 2017 and can deliver the full range of asbestos services from surveying, air monitoring, clearance, bulk analysis and now UKAS accredited soil analysis.

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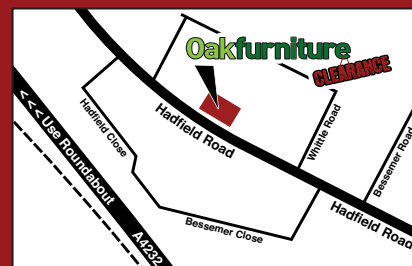
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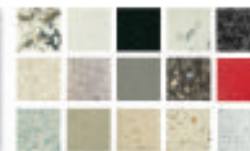
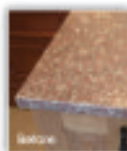
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# Heritage transport weekend will remember the old days of National Welsh

A CONVOY of heritage buses will be heading for Barry this coming weekend (April 28/29) to mark an important anniversary

Forty years ago, in 1978, the then government-owned National Bus Company merged several bus firms with long histories into a new company: National Welsh/Cymru Cenedlaethol.

The old firms dating from the 1920s, including Western Welsh and Red & White, which covered almost every village, town and city east from Swansea to Hereford and Gloucester, disappeared.

The state-owned bus companies themselves went shortly after 1986, when the Conservative government brought in privatisation.

On Saturday, April 28, a Heritage Road Run will be held, taking the old Cheltenham to Cardiff express coach route that was a key transport link before the days of motorways, and first or second Severn Bridge crossings.

This will see several old classic road coaches run in convoy, leaving the site of the old Cheltenham Coach Station at 10.30am, arriving in Barry at 3pm.

## NFU Ladies get up and go!

AN inspiring talk of 'My Journey' by Sara Forster, an occupational therapist, including her sterling work with HRH, the Princess Royal, was enjoyed by all. Her work has taken her all over the world.

Jean Griffiths gave the vote of thanks. Louise Goldsworthy won the

affle. The coach for the visit to Narberth and Picton Castle will leave Cowbridge town hall at 8.15am on Tuesday, May 8 and pick up members en route.

We meet next on September 18 at 7.30pm in Penllyn village hall.

Wishing you a good harvest, good health and good sunshine to you all.

RJE

On Sunday, April 29, free heritage bus trips will be available to the public from the Bus Depot, Broad Street in Barry.

The Cardiff Transport Preservation Group is also holding an open day at its restoration base and at its secondary store on Barry Dock.

The group now look after over 100 old buses and coaches, some dating back to 1933.

Mike Taylor, chairman of the Welsh heritage bus restoration group, said: "If anyone who has just retired wants something useful to do, they can come along and see what bus restoration is about."

"We have also just restored a 28-year-old former Cardiff Bus dating from 1990, an early Leyland Lynx which our younger volunteers started as a team project four years ago. It has just passed its MOT, so we hope we can give it its first heritage run on the day."

"We also now have three open top buses, so we hope the weather will be kind to us – the free trips will be running throughout Sunday, 10.30am to 4.30pm. Details are on our website: [ctpg.co.uk](http://ctpg.co.uk)"

Jonathan Radly, organiser of the Saturday Road Run, heritage coach owner and former employee, said: "I started work with National Welsh. It was a great business where public service came first."

"So, we are re-enacting the Number 620 coach route from Cheltenham, along the old National Express route via Gloucester, Chepstow and Newport to Cardiff and will continue to Barry, ready for the Sunday."

"We are looking at half a dozen old heritage coaches, some from the 1960s, running in convoy, much as they did in the old days."

"More details are on my own website: [redandwhitebus.co.uk](http://redandwhitebus.co.uk)"

Mike continued: "Our biggest event of the year is on June 10, the Barry Island Festival of Transport, but the Running Day event has proved very popular with local people – mums and dads and children as well as the transport enthusiast."

The bus restoration base at Barry is a purpose-built bus garage dating from 1938 and it will be open for visitors to look around at some of the group's historic vehicle collection. Recent restoration projects will be on show.



PHOTOGRAPHERS can take great images in a variety of ways.

Sometimes it's an instant shot, capturing a moment, or it can be well planned waiting for the right time of day or just the right balance.

Sometimes, it can require a bit more stickability, perhaps taking image after image until you get the perfect one.

That's how it was for Sue Dobbs, who told The GEM that she had taken "hundreds" of raindrop images until she found the one she was looking for.

You can see more of Sue's work on <http://susandobbsphotography.co.uk>

# 'Wales does not get a penny for Hinkley mud' - AM

PLAID CYMRU says that Wales will not receive payment for mud dumped off the Welsh coast from Hinkley Point nuclear site.

In a statement by the Welsh Government following a question by Mid and West AM Simon Thomas, it stated that no payment is made to Welsh coffers for sediment disposed of at the Cardiff Grounds disposal site.

No payment will be received at the point of deposit.

There is a fee for the determination of the Marine Licence to gain permission to carry out the activity, but not for

the activity itself.

The Plaid Cymru Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Climate Change and Rural Affairs, Mr Thomas said: "It seems unlikely that the mud from Hinkley

construction is dangerous, but it is still being dumped in Welsh waters. Despite being a £20bn project, Wales does not get a penny for nuclear waste in our seas."

"This lack of control over our resources and shores means our potential is being held back by Westminster."

"Even if I dispose of a fridge there is a charge paid to the local council, so shouldn't the same principle apply to the nuclear industry?"

## Valeways walks

ON May 1 at 10am, Crwydro, Coffee Cove, Ynys y Barri.

On May 2 at 10.30am, Barry Coffee Shop Strollers meet at the Bridge Cafe Car Park, Cold Knap, Barry.

Also on May 2, at 2.30pm, the Cowbridge Coffee Shop Strollers meet at the Physic Garden Fountain, Cowbridge.

On Thursday, May 3 at 10.30am 'Living With Cancer' Strollers meet outside the information office, Cosmeston Country Park.

## AM's surgery

JANE HUTT AM will host a surgery on Friday, April 27 at Murchfield Hall, Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys from 4pm-5pm; no appointment necessary.



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- 1 Cook the pasta until al dente
- 2 Sear the prawns until golden. Add the courgette spaghetti. Season and cook till the prawns are pink through and the courgette is tender
- 3 Add the pasta, lime and chilli dressing, Parmigiano Reggiano and dill into the prawns, loosening with a little pasta water. Season to taste. Serve with more dill and parmesan

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# WOMEN'S EQUALITY CAMPAIGNER'S PAPERS TO BE PRESERVED AT GLAMORGAN ARCHIVES

**DOCUMENTS and papers of a women's rights campaigner, whose work helped to set international standards for gender equality have been deposited with Glamorgan Archives.**

Her biographer, Dr Jean Silvan Evans, said: "Audrey Jones from the Vale was among the 30,000-plus women who streamed into Beijing for the historic 1995 United Nations World Conference on Women, networking, lobbying and rewriting to shape the Beijing Platform for Action, seen as a watershed in mainstreaming gender equality."

"She was the long-time chair and founder member of Wales Assembly of Women, and travelled the

world to represent the group at UN conferences on women's rights and was central to women's rights campaigns in Wales.

"She regularly represented the Assembly at the annual New York sessions of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) to review progress on the Beijing Platform and took part in the major conferences Beijing+5 (2000) and Beijing+10 (2005)."

Audrey's documents – six whole crates of them – were deposited by Dr Jean Silvan Evans, of Peterston-super-Ely, who recorded Audrey's life and achievements for the Dictionary of Welsh Biography, the national database of people in Wales who have made a significant contribution to national life.

Dr Silvan Evans said: "She first made her mark as an inspirational teacher and an uncompromising advocate of girls' education and the 'Sisterhood and After' archive holds a video clip of Audrey in typically animated fashion commenting on the sexism evident in exam questions of the time, as well as a summary of her six-hour audio interview.

"For 30 years, she taught at St Cyres Comprehensive School, Penarth, rising to deputy head, a distinction gained by few women in 1980s comprehensives. Committed to challenging sexism in education, she encouraged girls to study science and maths.

"Audrey came to live in Wales in the 1950s when her late husband Hugh Jones took over transport logistics for international chemical company Dow Corning and the family settled in Dinas Powys.

"As devolution loomed, she was an ardent campaigner in the powerful movement of women's groups that combined to persuade the new National Assembly to commit to equal opportunity and she took to the streets in the drive to get the Labour Party to adopt constituency twinning to ensure gender equality in Labour representation in the first Assembly."

Professor Jackie Jones, chair of Wales Assembly of Women, said: "Audrey was a real pioneer. She was there in the early days travelling the world to champion women's rights. I am delighted her papers are now in the Archives where so many others can share them."

Audrey died in 2014 and Wales Assembly of

Women established the Audrey Jones Awards for Research by Women in her honour.

The awards are coordinated by Dr Jane Salisbury, who said: "Audrey always stressed the importance of research that could illuminate the lives of women and girls. She understood that hard evidence could inform policies and underpin campaigns that properly enhance women's rights."

"The Audrey Jones Awards honour this and ensure that new data and analyses on contemporary women's lived experience in Wales reaches a wider public."

This year's Audrey Jones Awards will be presented at Wales Assembly of Women annual conference when two women researchers will talk about their work.

Dr Rosie O'Driscoll will talk about women who choose not to have children: 'Othering – Taking the M out of Mothering'; and Dr Claire Evans will share her findings on the topic: 'Are Gender and Low Pay Synonymous in Wales?'

Wales Assembly of Women annual will be held at Cardiff University School of Social Sciences, Cardiff, CF10 3WT on Saturday, April 28, 10am–3.30pm. Attendance, to include lunch, is £12. For more information or to register please email: [eleri.evans@talk21.com](mailto:eleri.evans@talk21.com) or [info@walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk](mailto:info@walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk)



Dr Jean Silvan Evans wheels the documents to the Glamorgan Archives.

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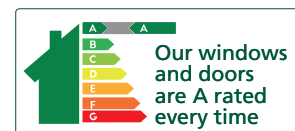
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# Out & About with The GEM

## Cowbridge Food Festival is gearing up for the end of May

**THIS year's Cowbridge Food & Drink Festival is gearing up for another two days at the end of May.**

Once again, there will be exhibitors and food demos taking place across several locations in the town.

Now in its 14th year, the festival will have more than 100 exhibition stands and expects to attract over 15,000 visitors.

The 2018 Festival will be the second year of a Heritage Lottery Funded project focusing on 'Forgotten Foods'.

This will entail exploring historical skills and traditional methods of food production and



storage, such as traditional basket making, which will be demonstrated at the Festival.

It will run from 9.30am to 5pm on Sunday, May 27 and Monday, May 28.

The main festival site is again at Arthur John's on North Road and a park

and ride service is provided free. Many of the local shops and restaurants get involved with the festivities throughout the weekend and other festival fun will be taking place at different sites including the Old Hall Gardens.

Pre-booked tickets are available at <http://cowbridgefoodanddrink.org>

On the day, tickets cost: £5 per day or £8 for weekend tickets. 12 years and under are admitted free but will be issued tickets to access any discounts.

Pre-booked ticket holders will receive discount vouchers from town traders when they pick up their wristbands. FS

## WHAT'S ON AND WHERE...

### RAF commemoration parades

**MEMBERS** of the Royal Air Force will be exercising their right to Freedom of the Vale of Glamorgan with parades in three towns in the county, starting with Llantwit Major.

The parades are to celebrate the 80th anniversary of RAF St Athan, as well as the centenary of the formation of the RAF.

Llantwit Major's parade will take place on Saturday, April 28 at 10.35am and will start at the Rugby Club and go through the town centre to the war memorial, and return.

### Penarth Lecture

**THE** next lecture of the Barry and Penarth Railway Society will take place on Thursday, April 26 at Penarth Conservative Club, Stanwell Road, CF64 2EZ, starting at 7.30pm.

Stephen Rowson will introduce 'The Railway Photographs of Ian L Wright'. New enthusiasts are welcome.

### Art society

**ON** Thursday, April 26, the society will start its summer term of events with an assisted workshop led by local artist and tutor Sarah Davies on 'Resist Techniques with Watercolour'.

On Thursday, May 3, there is a charcoal demonstration by Cheltenham artist Sheila Bryant, possibly the best demonstrator of this medium who has visited the society in recent years.

The society welcomes artists of any level, and also non artists who would like to see demonstrations or attend illustrated lectures.

Meetings take place on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm-9pm). Visitors and new members are most welcome. Visit [www.cowbridgeartsociety.com](http://www.cowbridgeartsociety.com) and [www.facebook.com/cowbridgeartcas](http://www.facebook.com/cowbridgeartcas).

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### Councillors' surgery

**COUNCILLORS** Geoff Cox, Hunter Jarvie and Andrew Parker, Cowbridge ward members on the Vale of Glamorgan Council, will be holding a surgery on Saturday, April 28 from 11am-12.30pm in the Robing Room of Cowbridge Town Hall (west door entrance).

Appointments are not necessary.

### MS Society (Bridgend & District Group)

**THERE** will be a Cake Break on Saturday, May 12 from 10am-2pm at Griffin Park Community Hall, New Road, Porthcawl, CF36 5DN.

Cake Stall, Tombola, White Elephant stall, raffle plus other stalls. Entry: £1 to include cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit.

## Conner's Comedy Bash promises a laugh at 'one-night only' event

**ON** an overnight break in Porthcawl in March 2015, 18-year-old Conner Marshall was brutally attacked and killed by a stranger – but his memory lives on through friends and family.

Following the recent success of Conner's Beard Bash, supporters of much loved and missed Conner are pleased to be again celebrating the life and smile of a very special young man.

This ticket-only event is at the Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth, doors open at 7pm this Friday, April 27.

Taking charge of the evening's entertainment is Col Howarth, introducing local exciting talent, with gags, stories and one liners. A well-stocked bar, merchandise for sale and a gala raffle will all add to a great evening out.

The aim is to make this another night to remember for Conner, who will never be forgotten.

Tickets have sold very well, and any availability can be found at [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or Foxy's Deli, Penarth, or for returns and cancellations, call Pat Shirley on 02920 212510.

DS

## White Gecko Craft evening

**THE** White Gecko Craft Lounge in Camms Corner, Dinas Powys is having a fabric swap evening.

Bring fabric that has been sitting in your stash forever. You will get a ticket for the amount that you bring and you can go home with that amount of someone else's stash! There will be bubbles and nibbles and 20 per cent off everything in store.

We will also have a demonstration for the quilting frame in the shop, and this can be hired per hour.

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Sarah 07917 881220

**Mondays 5.30pm**  
Cadroxton Moors Community Centre, Rear of Edmond Place, Cardiff Road, Barry  
Karl 07411 621866

**Mondays 5.30pm and 7.30pm**  
Celtic Way Community Centre, Rhoose  
Helen 01446 750738/  
07968 355119

**Mondays 5.30pm & 7.30pm**  
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Parish of Our Lady & St Illtyd, (Catholic Church), Ham Lane East, Llantwit Major  
Helen 01446 750738/  
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**Tuesdays 6.30pm**  
The Old School, South Road, Sully CF64 5TG  
Nicola 07951 510871

**Wednesday 9.30am**  
Trinity Church, John Street, Porthcawl  
Beverley 07912 172674

**Wednesdays 4.45pm and 6.45pm**  
St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-Y-Castell, Barry  
Annmarie 07837 497523

**Wednesday 5.30pm and 7.30pm**  
Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry  
Martin 07827 445570

**Wednesday 3.30pm, 5.30pm, and 7.30pm**  
Bridgend Deaf Club, Coychurch Road, Bridgend  
Helen 07714 170908

**Wednesdays 6.00pm**  
5th Barry Sea Scout Hall, Everard Street, Barry.  
Karl 07411 621866

**Thursdays 8.00am, 10.00am, 12.00pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm**  
Sarn & Brynawlis Social Club, Brynawlis Road, Sarn  
Scott 07776062802

**Thursdays 5.30pm**  
Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry  
Annmarie 07837 497523

**Thursdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm**  
The Cabin (Next to Swim Pool), Rear of Hebron Hall, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys  
Linda 07809 901008

**Thursdays 5.30pm and 7.30pm**  
The Bayside Room, Hi Tide, Porthcawl, CF36 5BT  
Rachel 07779 956233

**Thursdays 9.30am, 3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm**  
Talbot Community Centre, Kenfig Hill  
Millie 07765 040006

**Thursdays 9.30am and 11.30am**  
Memorial Hall, Cenotaph Entrance, Gladstone Road, Barry.  
Nicola 07951 510871

**Thursdays 5.30pm**  
St. Davids Church Hall, Wimbourne Road, Pencoeed  
Donna 07790 797008

**Thursdays 9.30am**  
Nolton Church Hall, Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend  
Donna 07790 797008

**Friday 9.30am**  
Cornelly Community Centre, Heol Las CF33 4AS  
Rachel 07779 956233

**Fridays 9.30am and 11.30am**  
The Cabin (Next to Swim Pool), Rear of Hebron Hall, Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys  
Linda 07809 901008

**Saturdays 7.30am, 9.30am and 11.30am**  
Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry  
Martin 07827 445570

**Saturday 8.00am & 10.00am**  
All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth  
Linda 07809 901008

**Saturdays 9.30am**  
The Gathering Place, Flemingston Road, St Athan  
Helen 07968 355119

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# Outgoing FM praised by Labour colleagues

**A WEEK, even a couple of days, is a long time in politics.**

On April 18, The GEM posted a story – *First Minister under fire* – to its website. Three days later, the First Minister, Carwyn Jones AM, announced at his party's Spring conference that he would be stepping down from his role as First Minister and leader of Welsh Labour.

In his resignation speech, he said that he had been going through the "darkest of times" since the death, reportedly suicide, in November 2017 of AM Carl Sargeant, adding: "I don't think anyone can know what the last few months have been like; no one apart from Lisa and the kids."

Mr Jones, aged 51 and AM for Bridgend, has been party leader and leader of Welsh Labour since 2009, taking over from his predecessor of 10 years, Rhodri Morgan.

Nine years is an even longer time in politics than a week, and The GEM asked his local Welsh Labour colleagues for comment on his legacy, what qualities the next First Minister should have, and who that person should be.

Chris Elmore, MP for Ogmore, and Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale responded.

Mr Elmore said: "Carwyn Jones' time as Leader of Welsh Labour and First Minister of Wales has been hallmarked by his clear vision, integrity and, above all else, his cast iron record of delivery for communities right across Wales. He is a true giant of the Labour movement and I'm proud of him both as my constituency neighbour, as leader of our country and as a friend."

"Through winning two Assembly elections, leading from the front in three General Elections and being a constant support for Labour councillors across Wales, Carwyn has led our



**First Minister and Bridgend AM Carwyn Jones. Photo courtesy of and by National Assembly for Wales.**

party and our country steadfastly through a period with a backdrop of deep economic and political challenges.

"Alongside being First Minister, Carwyn has stood up for his constituents in Bridgend and everyone across Wales and has been a bastion of stability and social change despite a period of prolonged Tory austerity from Westminster. I look forward to continuing to work closely with Carwyn for the rest of his time as First Minister and as a constituency AM. I have no doubt that he will continue to be a key figure within our movement in the months and years ahead."

"I hope that the next Leader of Welsh Labour will build upon Carwyn's strong record and help to ensure the people of Wales continue to see

Welsh Labour as the only party who can deliver for all of our communities. I look forward to working with whoever he or she may be."

Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale, said that the next leader and First Minister "...must have integrity and be able to reach out to all views and opinions in the party..." and is backing Mark Drakeford AM.

Ms Hutt said: "Carwyn Jones has been an outstanding leader of Welsh Labour and First Minister for more than eight years and I was his colleague and minister in his Government for 15 years, securing pioneering legislation in housing, social services, health, trade union rights and the environment."

"He was able to do this because he secured a Welsh Labour

Government in 2011 and 2016, leading strong elections campaigns with the people of Wales backing Labour again and again as the largest party in the Assembly.

"The people of Bridgend have been well served by Carwyn Jones as their local AM, tirelessly working to support local communities and businesses, helping to protect local services and bringing in new jobs and opportunities such as Aston Martin in the Vale - which will benefit the wider region."

"I believe the next leader of Welsh Labour will need a track record in politics and in Government, but most of all the next leader must have integrity and be able to reach out to all views and opinions in the party which reflect those of the people of Wales."

"My first choice for Welsh Labour Leader and First Minister is former county councillor, probation officer, Professor of Social Policy, Health and Finance Minister Mark Drakeford. "What do GEM readers think? Whether you agree with these comments or not, and regardless of your political affiliation, let us know your thoughts. Please send your correspondence to [editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk](mailto:editorial@glamorgangem.co.uk), including your address and telephone number.

## Marvel Studios – the cinematic brand that keeps on delivering...

**AS the credits began to roll on 2018's Iron Man, there were a smattering of people who didn't stand up, and stayed firmly in their seats.**

As the final credits rolled up the screen, the patience of audiences was rewarded as Robert Downey Jr's Tony Stark, fresh from defeating business rival and part-time megalomaniac Obadiah Stane and announcing to the world that he was Iron Man, was met by Samuel L Jackson's Nick Fury, who informed he was "... part of a bigger universe" and that he wanted to discuss something called the "Avenger initiative".

If you were in the know, then it was likely you had an inkling of what could be coming, but the plans for a larger Marvel universe were tied up in the success (or failure) of *Iron Man* and the summer's other Marvel offering, *The Incredible Hulk*.

Suffice to say, they delivered (the former, it's fair to say, more than the latter) and now, 10 years later, we are at the beginning of the end of the first chapter of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (or MCU to save me typing any more than I have to) as we prepare for the release of *Avengers: Infinity War*.\*

It's been a ride that Kevin Feige, the president of Marvel Films, has made look easy but has been anything but (a simple glance in the direction of Warner Brothers and DC Comics highlights that it's not as straightforward as it seems) yet there is little sign of the Marvel



**by GARETH JAMIESON**  
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

juggernaut slowing down. Films are planned up until 2021, new characters making their way from comic book page to screen and, of course, the hot topic of, assuming all proceeds as planned, the Marvel characters owned by 20th Century Fox (including the *X-Men* and *Fantastic Four*) entering the Marvel universe once Disney and Fox sign, seal and deliver the former taking over the latter.

What has made Marvel so good at what they have done is the boldness of their choices. To have the chutzpah to create a universe of characters under one umbrella had never been done before (the closest hint we had was Batman telling Robin: "This is why Superman works alone" in *Batman & Robin*), but to then roll it out as they have done, with seemingly seamless narrative planning and foreshadowing, has been incredible to watch.

Similarly, they have made directorial choices that may have seemed strange at the time, but have paid huge dividends (Kenneth Branagh tackling *Thor*,

Shane Black taking on *Iron Man 3*, James Gunn on *Guardians of the Galaxy* and the Russo brothers, directors of comedies, tackling two *Captain America* films and the two upcoming *Avengers* films).

Of course, there have been missteps (*Iron Man 2* did too much heavy-lifting when it came to building the universe, *Thor: The Dark World* was a dull and leaden affair) but they have been easily outweighed by the triumphs, all of this culminating, no doubt, in an *Infinity War* to remember as Thanos (the purple guy from the post-credits scene of *The Avengers* for those who aren't keeping too close an eye on proceedings) aims to collect the infinity stones to control the universe with only, seemingly, every Marvel hero intent on stopping him.

There will be destruction, there will be death – and there will no doubt be scale on an unprecedentedly humungous scale – as Marvel starts to close one door and creak open another to take their brand to new and exciting places. It just goes to show, from such small post-credit stings can global, money-swallowing franchises grow.

**Gareth's top five MCU Films**

5. *Spider-Man: Homecoming*; 4. *Guardians of the Galaxy*; 3. *Iron Man 3*; 2. *Captain America: Civil War*; 1. *The Avengers*.

\*Read Gareth's review of *Avengers: Infinity War* at [glamorgangem.co.uk](http://glamorgangem.co.uk) on Friday, and next week's Glamorgan GEM.

## Would you care for a little Summer?



**Summer with Niccie from the Dogs' Trust.**

**SUMMER is an eight-month-old Chihuahua cross who has an affectionate side.**

It does take a little time for her to get to know new people and adjust to new situations, so multiple visits to the centre will be required. Summer does rely on other dogs for support, so we are looking to rehome her with another dog already established in the home which will help

build up her confidence. Summer is looking for a quiet home with children 14 years and over. With time, she will find her feet and will be a very loyal and rewarding companion.

For more information on Summer, visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Bridgend, CF31 4NG; or give us call on 01656 725219. You can also visit our website at [www.dogs-trust.org.uk](http://www.dogs-trust.org.uk).

DF

## Neighbourhood Watch meeting

**THE Vale of Glamorgan Neighbourhood Watch Association will be holding an information evening on Monday, May 14, at 6.30pm in the Corporate Suite at the Vale Council Offices, Holton Road, Barry.**

There will be information on crime prevention, including a presentation from Crimestoppers, followed by the association's annual general meeting.

All local co-ordinators and members of the public are invited to attend and refreshments will be served.

## Actors in plan to train airport staff



**PICTURED: (left to right) Rachel Jones CEO Arts & Business Cymru; Jacques Colgate and Olivia Barry from Hijinx; and Deb Barber, CEO of Cardiff Airport.**

**AN initiative that will see staff at Cardiff Airport trained by actors with learning disabilities aims to help improve communications skills.**

The project is the 100th to benefit from a funding injection by Arts & Business (A&B) Cymru's CultureStep

programme.

Twenty members of the airport's security staff will train with six learning disabled actors from Hijinx Theatre, who will, said a spokesperson, "role-play scenarios from daily life".

Deb Barber, Chief Executive of Cardiff Airport said: "We are very committed to delivering the best possible customer

experience for everyone choosing to fly from Cardiff, and we are particularly proud of our PRM (Passengers with Reduced Mobility) service.

"It incorporates everything we've learned so far from our partners, which include Autism Puzzles and Age Cymru."

AS

## Ukip AM in freefall dive (with the Red Devils)

**CAROLINE JONES, Assembly Member and UKIP Shadow Health Secretary for South Wales West, is planning to complete a parachute jump with the Red Devils Parachute Regiment Display Team on May 1 above Salisbury Plain to raise money for Leonard Cheshire Homes in Wales and homeless veterans.**

Ms Jones said she was inspired to support Leonard Cheshire when she visited one of its homes and was touched by the stories and the dedication of all the staff supporting these homes for disabled people.

She had been contacted by a family in Kenfig Hill about their son who was in a coma and in an ordinary

hospital.

Following a change of hospital and much rehabilitation, he needed a home, and is now settled in one of the charity's residences.

The other charitable cause she wishes to help is Armed Forces' veterans who return from active service, only to find themselves homeless and living on the street. She feels it is a poor way to reward their bravery and that homelessness in the 21st century is morally reprehensible.

Ms Jones is calling on support from businesses and the public to help her raise £5,000 for charities by donating to her JustGiving crowdfunding page: [www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ca-roline-jones-4?utm\\_id=2&utm\\_term=jVkJAkjAg](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ca-roline-jones-4?utm_id=2&utm_term=jVkJAkjAg).

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## 'Time to lighten up about male choirs'

**L**IZZIE AHOURE says she is being, "... a little mischievously to begin with....." when she asks, "why, as a woman, can I not join a male voice choir?" (The GEM April 19).

If this is an intended send up so that she can have a bit of fun with the anticipated respondents, then she has succeeded.

If, however, she is being serious about this subject matter then the ramifications, I would suggest, have the unintended consequence of being comical. Instead of promoting the good cause of feminism, she is bringing the cause into a state of ridicule.

Perhaps I can also "poke fun", as she puts it, and suggest there is a solution. The clue is in the 'male' voice. This can be surgically attended to. When done, this then will result in the male being deprived of his natural biological voice as either a tenor, baritone or bass.

Therefore, in vocal terms, we can all be the same ie male and female. Although it will eliminate the wonderful and special sound of harmonious male voices,

it will be worth it in order to satisfy the feminist cause, as well as, and more importantly, relieve this pervading and persisting guilt trip we males have to suffer in this dominating PC climate we are now having to live with.

Finally, Lizzie Ahoure makes the populist reference to racial prejudice. Is she not engaging in double standards? She comments that each time she sees a photograph of a male voice choir, "it is a sea of white male faces looking back at me".

Is this remark really in keeping with the all-embracing and pervasive sensitivities we all now have to carefully manage and negotiate around in our daily social interactions?

If consistency and equality is to have any true meaning in this current climate of diversity, then such a comment has to be construed as being not only racist but sexist.

Consider if a white person made a similar comment about the marvellous gospel choirs that exist in this country. Outrage, I would suggest.

D Williams, Rhosce.

# Twinning association lays out red carpet for visitors from France



## Injuries following Cornelly Football Club collision

**POLICE in Bridgend are continuing to investigate a serious collision which occurred at Cornelly Football Club shortly before 8pm on Thursday, April 19.**

A 35-year-old man, who was arrested in connection with this incident has been recalled to prison.

Officers are still urging anyone with footage from the collision to contact 101 quoting reference number: 1800136445.



**PUPILS from Brynteg and Bryntirion schools recently played host to 16 pupils visiting the area from Villeneuve d'Ornon, Bridgend's twin town in France.**

Bridgend Town Twinning Association, together with staff from the schools, arranged a programme of visits and activities for the week.

After spending the first weekend with their host families, the group travelled by train to Cardiff where they took part in a tour of the Principality Stadium, followed by an afternoon exploring Cardiff.

A highlight of the week must have been the activity day the students enjoyed at Margam Park Adventure.

Ben Bailey, the director and programme designer of the Adventure School, prepared two very different activities. Splitting the group, one half tried their skills at paddle boarding, getting very wet in the process, while the remaining half cycled their way around the park using the mountain bikes, before swapping activities.

Even the weather had improved and the sun shone warmly, allowing the pupils to enjoy the scenery at Margam Park.

The group returned to Bryntirion School where it gave a presentation to local pupils.

Other visits included a tour along the Heritage coastline where they explored Dunraven and Ogmere Castles, and also a full day at the Museum of Welsh Life at St Fagans.

Both sets of pupils took part in evening activities when they went bowling and also danced the night away at a disco in Bridgend Tennis Club.

Bridgend Town Twinning Association and staff from both schools would like to say a huge 'thank you' to local families for hosting these pupils.

A spokesperson said: "At a time when modern languages are often being phased out from our schools, isn't it refreshing to know that Bridgend has a close link with our twin towns in Europe?"

"These links enable our young people to make, and hopefully keep, friends from other countries with different cultures."

Many of the members of Bridgend Town Twinning Association have adult friends from these countries that have lasted for many years.

We are now looking forward to welcoming a group from Hechtel-Eksel in Belgium and in May, the Chorale du Lac from Villeneuve d'Ornon will be spending a few days in Bridgend.

During their stay they will be joining Tabernacle Choir and Trelales Primary School in an evening concert at Tabernacle Chapel, Derwen Road on Friday, May 18 at 7pm. Tickets are available from choir members or payment can be made at the door.

The chorale will also be performing in Porthcawl at All Saints Church on Monday, May 21 at 7pm. They will be joined on this occasion by Sounds Familiar and Mynydd Cynfig Primary School Choir.

We would like local residents to support these concerts in order to make our French friends feel the warmth of a Welsh welcome.

If you are interested in knowing more about our association, please visit our website at [bridgendtownwinning.co.uk](http://bridgendtownwinning.co.uk) or contact our secretary Madeleine Walters on 029 2089 2011. We are always looking for new members with new ideas.

AK

## Ollie's walk challenge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ollie's now coming on really well at school. He does have weekly speech therapy, but has no problem communicating with his friends. He wears a boot on his right foot for support because he has sensory issues after the stroke – but this won't stop him from running, hopping or skipping for the mile.

Nicola added: "Step Out is a great chance for us to be around other people who've been through a similar experience to us, and it feels like a little community. It's a really feel-good day."

Margaret Street, director at the Stroke Association in Wales, said: "Stroke strikes in an instant and causes more disabilities than any other condition."

"It's a real inspiration to see Ollie taking on this walking challenge to raise vital funds to support other stroke survivors."

"Step out for Stroke is a fun walk that everyone can be part of, no matter what your age or fitness level. We're inviting the whole community to come to this fun day out and help us make it an event to remember."

Visit [www.stroke.org.uk/stepout](http://www.stroke.org.uk/stepout) for more information.

AS

## Local man is jailed after police chase

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mr Egan said that on January 31, police were on duty in the Pyle area at 2am when they spotted Chard driving a Renault Clio and indicated that they wanted him to stop.

"But he didn't and there was a dangerous driving incident for 30 minutes," said Mr Egan. On more than one occasion, he said, he went through red lights, drove at high speed, went the wrong way around the roundabout and drove into the rear of a police car, and drove off.

An officer suffered whiplash injuries, had to go to hospital and ended up taking painkillers.

Several police vehicles took part in the chase and at 2.30am, a stinger was set across the road and Chard and his vehicle were

stopped and he was arrested.

Mr Egan said he smelled of cannabis and had three wraps of the drug on him. He said the drugs were for personal use. In the past, the court heard, he had been fined for driving without due care and attention.

His barrister, Gareth Morley, said that tests showed that Chard had not been driving under the influence of drugs. He said he told the police he had panicked.

He pointed out that Chard did not collide intentionally with the police car, but through bad driving and he wished to apologise to the injured officer.

He added that he failed to appear in court earlier this year, simply because he "buried his head in the sand".

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Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron at the parade.



## Royal Air Force 100th anniversary parade

**AIR Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron proudly marched in the Royal Air Force parade in Swansea recently with 400 Royal Air Force personnel and cadets, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Air Force.**

The Air Cadets were joined by the Band of the Royal Air Force, Queens Colour Squadron and service personnel from MoD St Athan; along with an Air Cadet band and 200 Air Cadets from across south and west Wales.

Hundreds of people cheered and lined the streets of Swansea to

congratulate the Royal Air Force on the service's 100th anniversary, as the parade marched from St Mary's Church to Brangwyn Hall along St Helen's Road.

Cadet Tom John said: "I was amazed to see so many people supporting us and the cadets all felt really proud as well."

Wing Commander Mike Stones said: "The Air Cadets did themselves proud today, looking smart, representing the Royal Air Force, and are a shining example of the youth in our community."

The Air Cadets also undertake many other exciting activities outside of ceremonial parades including flying, gliding, adventure training, shooting, sport, field craft, the Duke of

Edinburgh Award Scheme, expeditions and visits to RAF Stations around the United Kingdom. The cadets are eagerly looking forward to their forthcoming trip to the battlefields and memorials of Ypres (Belgium) and the Somme (France).

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 12 and 17 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm-9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour on Gladstone Road (by the Memorial Hall). Contact the Squadron on 01446 311168, email oc.372@aircadets.org.uk or visit www.372squadron.org.uk for more information.

## Reception class 'Go Wild' for their immersion day



**RECEPTION pupils at Albert Primary School, Penarth, had an incredible immersion day in readiness for their new topic recently.**

An immersion day is where pupils have a multi-sensory experience of their new topic. This enables the staff to apply the curriculum in a creative way while ensuring pupils have a clear understanding of their topic.

With this in mind, the Reception children had a visit from Animal Zone UK.

Animal Zone UK was formed by Dave Board in 2006 and its mission is to provide education and interaction to promote the welfare of exotic animals in captivity.

All the pupils had a 'hands on' informative workshop from Dave and really enjoyed getting up close to a range of exotic creatures, that ranged from snakes, toads, lizards and some very scary spiders!

## VALE AM SPEAKS OUT ON PENSION INEQUALITY



Jane Hutt AM and Jayne Bryant AM with campaigners the Assembly.

**LAST week, Vale AM Jane Hutt spoke in a debate in the Assembly about pension inequality and the Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) campaign.**

Ms Hutt paid tribute to campaigners in the Vale, including Kay Clarke, who has helped bring women together to learn more about the impact of UK government changes to state pensions which have detrimentally affected many women born in the 1950s.

Ms Hutt said: "I felt it was important to quote campaigner Kay Clarke in my speech and her

challenge to the Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns, to address this long standing injustice.

"I fully support the campaigners who have highlighted the unfair changes made to women's state pensions in the UK Government's Pension Acts. They have raised concerns about a lack of notification of these pension changes which has forced many women born in the 1950s, into hardship.

"I hosted an event in Barry last year which was attended by women who are affected by these changes. The UK Government needs to respond to their call for pension justice."

## Building Society reaches new landmarks

**S W A N S E A Building Society celebrated reaching several landmarks in 2017.**

It made its highest ever pre-tax profit, highest level of total assets and reached a new high in its mortgage balances in 2017 – an achievement it attributed to its face-to-face approach and expanding network of branches.

The society made a pre-tax profit of £2.86 million in 2017, an increase of 11.7 percent compared with the same period the year before when it posted a profit of £2.56 million.

Its total assets were £275.4 million in 2017 – the highest level of total assets ever recorded by the society – showing an increase of £6.8 million or 2.5 percent on its total assets of £268.6 million a year earlier.

Its gross mortgage lending increased to £46 million in 2017 from £44 million in 2016 and mortgage balances increased to £201.3 million, an increase of

8.8 percent from £185 million in 2016, which are both two new records for the Society.

Alun Williams, chief executive, said he felt the strong performance was testament to its business model and the fact that other banks and building societies are abandoning a personal service and their customers in rural areas and small towns.

"The society has opened its fourth branch in Cowbridge which will become its regional hub in south east Wales and we look forward to it making a very positive contribution to the society in 2018.

Swansea Building Society's balance sheet is 100 per cent funded by retail and business savings and retained profits, meaning it has no reliance on the wholesale money markets to fund either asset growth or mortgage lending.

The Building Society will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) at Swansea's Liberty Stadium on Thursday, April 26.

FTM

## Sell-out book launch success



Robert Darke, Pam Cockerill, Jan Marsh, KJ Rabane, Iona Jenkins and Ron Powell.

**WHAT more could an author ask of a book launch than to sell every copy of their latest book?**

Well, that's exactly what happened to Vale writer, Jan Marsh, last Thursday evening (April 19), when

her new historical novel, *Love in the Limelight – A Drury Lane Romance*, sold out.

In a packed Dotty Pots in Penarth, Jan was supported by the five fellow authors in her writing group, The Tiny Writers.

From left to right in the accompanying picture, they are: Robert Darke, author of *The Accidental Courier*, a fast-paced thriller set in his home town of Cardiff; Pam Cockerill, whose memoir, *Seven Year Hitch*, is a humorous account of family life in Barry and Cardiff in the 50s and 60s; Jan Marsh, for whom *Love in the Limelight* is a departure from her Foxwood trilogy; K J Rabane, author of the hugely successful *Who is Sarah Lawson?* and other Richie Stevens novels; Iona Jenkins, author of the Lumenor series, popular with young teens and adults, and an award-winning poetry collection, *Heartsong*; and Ron Powell, the Barry-Island based author of Second World War aviation novels, *Wings Over Summer* and *Wings Over Malta*, whose hero, Jack Williams, is a Spitfire pilot from Barry.

Each spoke for a few minutes about their writing and their latest projects, before Jan read a short passage from *Love in the Limelight*. After a lively question and answer session, the evening finished with the chance to buy the new book, which many did.

Anyone wishing to buy ebooks or paperbacks by the six authors will find them on Amazon.

## Caritas Choir celebrate

**THIS year marks the fifth anniversary for the choir Caritas and they are celebrating with a special anniversary concert in St German's Church, Roath.**

Formed in the Vale in 2013 by musical director, Lindsay Gray, the choir aims to raise at least £1,000 for a good cause at each concert. Caritas has performed across south Wales and the west of England, including Ewenny Priory, St Nicholas Church, Dyffryn House (National Trust), and St Thomas the Martyr in Bristol.

The anniversary concert on Saturday, April 28 celebrates the achievement of raising more than £32,000 for charitable causes in just five years, thus smashing their original target of £15,000.

A range of local, national and international charitable causes have benefited from Caritas' generous work, including NSPCC, Huggard Centre for the Homeless, 2 Wish upon a Star and Nekemte Christian Education College in Ethiopia.

All of the money raised by the upcoming concert in Roath will support the great work of St German's Church and Cardiff & St Fagans NSPCC.

Join Caritas to celebrate their fifth anniversary at St German's Church (CF24 0LA) on Saturday, April 28 at 7pm. Proceeds from this concert will support the great work of Cardiff & St Fagans NSPCC and St German's Church.

Tickets can be bought at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/caritaschoir](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/caritaschoir). You can find out more about the choir at [www.caritaschoir.co.uk](http://www.caritaschoir.co.uk).

## Local choir takes to the road

**COWBRIDGE Male Voice Choir recently performed a concert at St George's Church, Hinton St George, Somerset.**

All choirs sing in many different surroundings and it is always a pleasure to sing in a church that is not only beautiful, but has brilliant acoustics.

The choir opened the concert by singing *Cwm Rhodda, The Water is Wide, Let it be Me and O Gymru*.

Sandra and Rhianon Williams then played the duet *March Milliaire*.

The choir finished the evening by singing *Calon Lan, The Beatles Medley*, during which the audience

enthusiastically joined in, and ended with *The Impossible Dream*.

The encore, after a standing ovation, was *Angels*. The evening closed with the singing of the National Anthem followed by the Welsh Anthem.

The choir, together with members of the audience, then adjourned to The Lord Poulett Arms for the traditional afterglow where a good time was had by all.

The choir's next concert is on April 28 in Salem Chapel, Tonteg; tickets will be available at the door priced £5.



## WELSH LEARNERS' CHOIR PERFORMS



**THE musical director of Côr Dysgwyr Porthcawl, Anne Brown, received an invitation recently from the organisers of the Welsh Learners' Festival, Ar Lafar.**

The festival is an opportunity for Welsh language learners to take part in a day of activities and it encourages participation at events in various locations across Wales, including the National History Museum of Wales, St Fagans.

The choir was chosen to close the festival, held at St Fagans this

year on April 21 and performed in the Atrium.

The choir performed a number of traditional Welsh songs which were known to the audience. It was heartening to see people of all ages enjoying the performance and joining in with the singing.

The next performance by the choir will be at a Cymdeithas Llantrisant evening in May.

Preparations are also going well for the Welsh Learners' Choir competition at the National Eisteddfod at Cardiff Bay in August.

Irene Collier

## Top prize for Porthcawl restaurant



*Geraint Jones and Sonia De Abreuof of Isabella's were thrilled to be winners at the Good Food Wales Awards.*

**A PORTHCAWL restaurant has taken a top prize at a Welsh food awards presentation.**

As The GEM reported on April 12, Geraint Jones and Sonia De Abreuof of Isabella's in Porthcawl were thrilled when The Good Food Wales Awards nominated them for 'Best World Cuisine Restaurant in Wales'.

So, they must have been even more excited when they attended the presentation night at The Exchange Hotel in Cardiff on Monday (April 23) and were declared the winners!

The awards recognise the very best of the Welsh food industry – from those who produce

the ingredients to those who serve them, including restaurants, takeaways, hotels and cafés.

Speaking before the awards night, Geraint said: "We are very proud to be the only representatives of Porthcawl."

"The restaurant trade is a tough environment to get right and our success is down to hard work, determination and a great team of staff."

Sonia added: "Isabella's was established eight years ago and we are all so excited to have been acknowledged for the high standards we set."

"Just to be nominated is a great achievement and we are so happy to be among some very well-known competition from all over Wales."

## Staedtler sharpens ad campaign with local schoolchildren

**PENCOED-BASED stationery manufacturer Staedtler, has unveiled a new advertising campaign featuring local schoolchildren to support its product range during the 'back-to-school' period.**

More 700 outdoor sites, both digital and static, will carry the campaign across the UK during the weeks leading up to the new school year.

With the strapline 'Draw your future, earn your stripes', the campaign features a series of school pupils imagining and drawing their dream job, using the yellow-and-black striped Noris pencil to imagine their future.

Featuring schoolchildren from Pencoed Comprehensive School, the advertisements mix photographic imagery with overdrawn illustration using the Noris pencil, Staedtler's 'Hero' product. The children's dream jobs range from astronaut, judge, and explorer, to chemist, chef, and doctor.

Rachel Owen, Staedtler's marketing manager, said: "They say you should never work with children or animals but we found the Pencoed schoolchildren fantastic to work with."

"They soon grasped the concept and then were really enthusiastic in committing their ambitions to paper using their pencils."

The campaign was created by Cardiff-based Orchard Media and Events Group, and the advertisements are expected to reach over 25 million adults throughout the UK.



## Do you have any memorabilia for Tondy church?

**I**N June this year, there will be some special events at Wesley Church Centre Tondy (the Methodist Church), to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opening of the building on June 8, 1868.

Do you have any old photographs or other memorabilia connected with the church? Perhaps you were married there, or have other connections?

If so, church members would like you to get in touch so that they can hear your memories and perhaps copy your photographs to put on display.

Please contact Jeff Jones on 01656 662671 or email j.jones503@btinternet.com.

Information about the various events that are planned will be given nearer the time.

Jeff Jones, Tondy.

**Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email [editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk) or call 01446 774484**

## St Clare's School celebrates its 80th anniversary



*Sister Joan and Sister Mercedes were among many who returned for the celebration.*

**WHEN the Mother Superior of an Irish Catholic order was asked to make the trip to south Wales to set up a convent, she left with a grim warning ringing in her ears: "Don't go to Wales, it's a hot-bed of non-conformity."**

Eighty years later, St Clare's School, situated in the village of Newton on the outskirts of Porthcawl, has good reason to thank the 'non-conformists' of south Wales for their help in establishing the school.

Porthcawl's Hi-Tide Inn hosted the school's 80th anniversary celebrations on Saturday evening and to everyone's delight, Sisters Mercedes, Mary,

Angela, Joan and Ailbe all returned for the weekend. Sadly, Sister Christina was not well enough to make the journey from Ireland.

More than 350 pupils and staff, past and present, gathered to reminisce and catch up with old friends, some of whom had travelled from as far as China, the USA, and Canada.

It was a very busy weekend, with hundreds of past pupils returning to look around the school on the Friday evening and Sunday morning. Luckily, the weather was kind and everyone enjoyed their tour of the grounds and were impressed with all the investment in the school.

HF

## Information and support bus for cancer sufferers in Bridgend

**MACMILLAN Cancer Support's Welsh information and support bus, Bronwen, will be in locations in Bridgend next week, including Porthcawl and Maesteg.**

Bronwen comes with the friendly team of Macmillan information and support specialists, a team of frontline health and social care professionals with years of experience in caring and supporting people living with cancer.

The bus hosts two electronic information screens, a private room for sensitive conversations and two iPads to enable people to find the information they need on the spot.

Macmillan would like to encourage anyone living nearby or simply passing by who have questions about cancer to come and say hello.

May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month, and the team will be handing out specialist skin cancer information and advising people how to be safe in the sun this summer.

Starting the week in Bridgend town centre on Monday, April 30 and Tuesday, May 1, the bus

will be parked up outside the 02 store on Caroline Street, from 9am to 6pm.

On Wednesday, May 2, the bus will be in Hillsboro Place South car park on Dock Street in Porthcawl between 9am and 3pm.

On Thursday, May 3, the team will be outside Tesco on Castle Street in Maesteg from 9am to 3pm.

On the last day, Friday, May 4, visitors can catch the bus in Maesteg free car park on Llynfi Road in Maesteg, between 8am and 4pm.

Moray Hayman, Bronwen Team Lead Cancer Information and Support Specialist said: "We encourage anyone who has been affected by cancer to come and see us, whether they're living with cancer, have been recently diagnosed, caring for someone with cancer or worried about a loved one."

"As well as answering questions on the day, we can signpost to other cancer services in the area and provide information on a range of issues, including financial advice and wellbeing."

"Even if you don't have a specific question to ask, our team is always available for a chat."

Richard Pugh, head of services for Macmillan in Wales, said: "At Macmillan, we know how a cancer diagnosis can affect everything and we're here to support you."

"Our mobile information team travel around Wales and the rest of the UK visiting local communities, providing cancer information and advice on the ground."

"The new Welsh vehicle is smaller and lighter, and will help the team to access places Macmillan has previously not been able to get to, reaching even more people affected by cancer in the process."

For further information about Macmillan's mobile information service and planned visits, go to <http://www.macmillan.org.uk/mobileinfo>.

If you are unable to visit the unit but have questions about cancer, visit [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk) or call Macmillan free on 0808 808 00 00 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm).



# Bridgend Athletic mini and junior rugby round-up

**IT was a great weekend for the Bridgend Athletic mini and junior teams.**

All eight teams in action were successful. Two under-7 teams won 11 and drew one game at the Pencoed Festival. The under-8s were undefeated, winning the Bonymaen annual tournament, the under-10s won five and drew one game at the Pencoed Festival, the under-12s completed their third festival on successive weekends undefeated to win the Pencoed Festival and the under-9s, under-13s and under-14s also registered significant wins.

The icing on the cake was the under-16s, in their final game as mini and juniors before moving to youth, claiming the Bridgend bragging rights. They crossed the River Ewenny to record a hard fought 36-5 victory over close neighbours Bridgend Sports, before a large crowd at their Bandstand Field.

The under-7s attended the Pencoed RFC annual rugby festival. Two teams were entered, playing 12 matches in total. In the one pool the Yellow played Pencoed, Neath Athletic, Dulais Valley, Oakdale, Penallta and Valley Ravens. In the other pool the Greens played Bridgend Sports, Llantrisant, Penallta,

Dulais Valley, Tondur and Llanharan Blacks.

On a warm Spring day, conditions underfoot were perfect for fast flowing rugby. Our boys didn't disappoint, with displays worthy of age groups far senior to theirs, and every player adding something to their team's performances.

Playing unfamiliar opposition who all posed their own challenges, the boys rose to the occasion and came away with a fantastic set of results, winning 11 and drawing one.

The under-8s took part in and won Bonymaen's annual tournament. They won all seven of their group matches against Abercraze, Loughor, Cwmgoris, Brynamman, South Gower, Bonymaen and Taibach before beating Penlan in the final.

An excellent effort against some strong opposition produced a total of 36 tries. Well done and congratulations to Ethan Davies with 11 tries, Dylan Jones, Mason Brown, Callum Brown, Grayson Whelan, Rhys Gardiner, Dylan Gardiner, Max Edwards, Iestyn Bissmire, William Waite, Reuben O'Brien, Oliver Evans, George Evans, Ewan Gill and Ashton Davies, who was awarded player of the tournament.

The under-9s welcomed Valley Ravens to Newbridge Fields on Sunday for what was

their final home game of the season. The Ath started brightly using their big forwards to run from deep and penetrate the Valley Ravens defensive line.

This created space out wide and provided a platform for the backs to spread the ball and score tries in the corners. The forwards did not take their foot off the gas and caused the Ravens problems all morning with their strong running and brilliant offloading.

It was a team effort with eight players getting on the scoresheet. Tries were scored by Tomas Carter (3), Rhys Punter (2), Albert Periclie (2), and Jamie Marshlan, Theo Tooze, Chaitu Gangineni, Leo Burgess and Oliver Williams.

Special mention for Oliver Williams and Jack Barras who also played for the Valley Ravens when they had lost a couple of players due to injury, with both players scoring tries for the Ravens.

The visitors played well at times and showed glimpses of what they can do by spreading the ball wide. In the end, the Ath were too strong all round running out 12-5 victors.

The under-10s ventured back to Pencoed for the Pencoed Festival. Another fantastic day of rugby with no defeats five wins and a draw, amazing rugby from all the team.

Scores: Pencoed 10-5, Aberdare 15-0, Barry 20-5, Chepstow 10-0, RTB Ebbw Vale 5-5 and Waunarlwydd 30-0. Try scorers: Rhys Hockings (5), Leo Quinn (4), Lewis Kerrigan (2), Daniel Honeyfield (2), Dan Mellor, Jack Lewis, Dan Stoodley, Rhydian Greenhall and Alex Tidball.



**Bridgend Athletic under-10s went undefeated.**

The boys are really starting to come together now and work well to score numerous tries. It really is pleasing to watch for coaches and parents alike, and gratifying when the opposition coaches remark: "You have a great side that play brilliant rugby and they will go far."

Well done to the team, now it's on to the next one at the Sports Festival this weekend.

The under-12s finished off their season by attending the local Pencoed Rugby Festival. The squad performed well throughout resulting in the team coming away as winners, scoring 18 tries and only conceding three. A special mention goes to Beth Maclauchlin who played her last match, having started at under-7s.

Scores: Pencoed 10-5, Aberdare 15-0, Barry 20-5, Chepstow 10-0, RTB Ebbw Vale 5-5 and Waunarlwydd 30-0. Try scorers: Rhys Hockings (5), Leo Quinn (4), Lewis Kerrigan (2), Daniel Honeyfield (2), Dan Mellor, Jack Lewis, Dan Stoodley, Rhydian Greenhall and Alex Tidball.

It was a great end to

the season completing three festivals and coming through undefeated. The coaches and players are already looking forward to next season.

It was another first for the under-13s with a trip west to Llangenech RFC. Probably the biggest pack of forwards they have ever encountered. As expected it was a very tough and competitive game despite a 42-22 scoreline in favour of the Athletic.

The Ath forwards got stuck in to the opposition's physically larger pack, which allowed the backs to cut loose.

Some hard running by captain and centre Shea Duggan saw him cross for four tries and wing/full back Sam Barraclough cross for two. All six tries were expertly converted by the Hughes twins.

An outstanding performance by all the squad, special mention goes to Toby Lewis and Elliot Patterson for playing out of position in the back row.

The under-14s had their game against Cinderford called off late Saturday so thanks to Cwmbran for inviting

them to play them. With perfect playing conditions but a very narrow pitch it took the Athletic a few phases of play to adjust their normal wide game.

With outside half Evan Beach putting inside centre and captain Gus Patterson and outside centre Thomas Clarke in space, it caused Cwmbran all sorts of problems. All the forwards put in a big performance with the set piece and ball carrying working well to compensate for the small pitch. Luke Griffiths for his jacking and Harper Chamberlain for his direct running really stood out.

It wasn't long before the Athletic started running in well-worked tries from all parts of the field with some great 15-man rugby. Credit to Cwmbran they fought until the end and played some good rugby themselves.

The final score was Bridgend Athletic 52, Cwmbran 7, try scorers Gus Patterson (2), Ieuan Bissmire (2), Evan Beach, Thomas Clarke, Luke Griffiths, Will Fyfe and six conversions by Evan Beach. Ironically the result, with the same

52-7 scoreline, eight tries and six conversions, exactly replicated the club's first XV victory at Seven Sisters.

The under-16s' last game of the season as mini and juniors was the much-anticipated local derby against Bridgend Sports.

With the Ath travelling the short distance over Newbridge Fields River Ewenny bridge to the Sports Bandstand ground and a big crowd watching, both sets of players were really pumped up for the game. Despite a six tries to one, 36-5 victory for the Athletic they were made to battle for every point.

The game kicked off with the Ath receiving the ball, and it was soon obvious that both teams were really up for the challenge. An even battle took place for the first 10-15 minutes with both side putting some big tackles in and testing each other's defences.

It was the Ath that broke the deadlock on about the 17 minute mark when a good move up the middle sucked the Sports defence in and quick ball saw flanker Morgan Bennett score the Ath's first unconverted try.

From the restart the next five minutes of play belonged to the Sports' forwards who drove up the left hand touchline to crash over and level the score with their own unconverted try.

The Ath knew they were in a game and raised the tempo to gain the upper hand. Some strong running by the Ath backs gave the forwards a platform close to the Sports line which saw Josua Llewellyn cross for the Ath's second unconverted try.

The Ath pack worked tirelessly and put some massive hits in which paid off when Joe Watts scored and converted his own try. The final play of the first half again saw the Ath on the attack with centre Bobby Bromley crossing for their fourth try, converted by Joe Watts, to give them a 24-5 half-time lead.

The second half saw the Ath make seven changes bringing on fresh legs, and the Sports were visibly tiring from the defensive work they required to keep a rampant Athletic attack at bay.

With the Ath backs running riot the Sports made an error five metres from their try line. A scrum saw No8 Josh Llewellyn pick up and cross for his second try converted by Joe Watts.

The Sports worked really hard throughout the second half but couldn't break the Ath's strong defence. It was the Ath who had the final say when Bobby Bromley scored his second try to secure the bragging rights with a 36-5 win for his team.

Both teams put on a good spirited performance with a big crowd watching. The 22 players from the Ath all played a significant part in what was a great team performance.

Athletic head coach Andrew Bennett, who has been with the team since under-7s, summed up his feelings: "Well done to you all - it has been a pleasure to coach you for the last 10 years. Best wishes boys for the future, both in your rugby careers and in life."

AB

## Athletic Youth take first step towards retaining their title

**BRIDGEND ATHLETIC youth started a season defining week in their quest to retain their OA league title which involves winning three league games in seven days.**

Saturday saw them achieve the first step when home to Kenfig Hill they got off to a great start, notching up six tries in a seasonal double 41-6 win.

The Mules opened the scoring when they were awarded a penalty after good play. The first try was scored when Athletic full back Cameron Lewis made a half break taking out two defenders before slipping the ball to flanker Tom Davies to cross wide out.

The Athletic had plenty of possession but the final pass often failed to go to hand. This changed with a superb move started deep in their half by outside half Morgan Roberts who ran out of defence before releasing centre Joe Patterson on the burst.

Patterson found himself in the clear and calmly drew in the Kenfig Hill full back to put wing Sam Owen in to score under the posts. Matthew Hobby converted.

The Athletic continued to run the ball at every opportunity aiming to move the larger Mules pack around the field. Another scoring opportunity saw Roberts use good feet to put captain for the day Patterson over near the posts. Hobby converted.

The last five minutes of the half belonged to Kenfig Hill who ran several good plays only to be kept out by solid defence. They were awarded their second kick able penalty after which the ref blew for half-time with the Athletic leading 19-6.

In the second half Bridgend Athletic

continued to run the ball wide to try and build on their lead. They were rewarded when from a quick tap penalty, the ball was moved right to Tom Davies to cross for his second try of the match.

Kenfig Hill had a lot more possession second half and were camped near the Athletic line on numerous occasions.

Credit to the Athletic defence which was well organised with each player putting in a big shift.

Hobby then kicked an Athletic penalty to keep the scoreboard ticking. The Athletic tactics later in the match was to counter-attack quickly when the Mules attack made mistakes.

This allowed strong running No8 Will Barraclough to find open spaces to use his speed and strength. He ran two second half tries to complete the Ath's excellent performance against a good organised team. Hobby and Roberts converted one try apiece.

Athletic youth head coach Lee Grabham commented: "Kenfig Hill never gave up and the scoreline doesn't reflect the effort put in from the away team. The Athletic's finishing on the day was just too good."

"We have achieved step one out of three and the players can rest up for a couple of days before they face Pencoed at the Morganstone Brewery Field on Wednesday, April 25 at 7pm, followed by Nantfyllon away on Saturday, April 28.

"The team would appreciate Athletic supporters to turn out in force to urge their team across the line in defence of their Ospreys A League title."

AB

## Best performance of the season from impressive Pencoed Phoenix



**Pencoed Phoenix players and staff celebrate their best performance of the season yet. ALL PICTURES BY JULIE HANCOCK**

**PENCOED Phoenix certainly rose to this occasion against Senghenydd, with arguably their best all-round team performance of the season to date in this top of the table clash, winning 15-0.**

A superb defensive effort from the whole team in the opening quarter kept the Sirens at bay before, and, as has so often been the case over the years, the combative Natalie O'Shea broke the deadlock.

This was slightly different from her fearsome Phoenix pack displays which has terrorized opposition defences in the past as O'Shea found herself starting at wing threequarter hampered by injury.

Nevertheless one of her trademark ferocious angled runs split the home defence to open the match scoring.

This was how matters stayed between these two equally-matched sides until the interval.

With no quarter given or asked it took another long-serving Phoenix player to come to the fore. Hannah Seward, having just returned from a nasty collar bone injury, put Phoenix out of reach on the scoreboard with a brace of tries in her usual determined manner.

To their credit the Sirens battled to the final whistle but it was a day for the Phoenix, as just a little earlier in the afternoon, both the under-15s and under-18s had recorded impressive wins.

TR



**Hannah Seward (with ball) attacks the try line.**



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# First blue skies of the year and all the sun-seekers make a beeline for Barry Island

**PHOTOGRAPHS by ANDY WICKS**  
Telephone 07855 374478



## South Wales Classic Car Club event next month

THE South Wales Classic Car Club will be holding their annual show on May 20 at the Cardiff City Stadium on Leckwith Road, Cardiff.

The club are always welcoming new members, and for further information you can visit [swcc.net](http://swcc.net).

Alternatively, the club meet at Pontyclun Athletic Club, Castan Road, Pontyclun on the first Thursday of every month and welcome new members and visitors alike.

The blue skies didn't last long and, in truth, a chill wind made it less than ideal for sunbathing, but that didn't stop sun-seekers heading for Barry Island last week.

Local photographer Andy Wicks dropped by to record this year's first sighting of the sun worshippers!



Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email [editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk) or call 01446 774484



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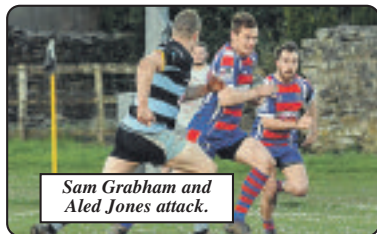
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# TONDU'S COMEBACK COMES TO NOTHING AS THEY ARE EDGED OUT BY LATE TRY



Sam Grabham and Aled Jones attack.



Try for Aled Jones. ALL PICTURES BY GARETH ANTHONY.

## Amy lands championship – thanks to Prince William



Amy Daye and Prince William MBS. Photo by Kevin Sparrow.

**AMY Daye from Bridgend has won the Petplan Equine Preliminary Silver Championship at the Petplan Equine Area Festival Championships on Prince William MBS.**

The combination has spent the winter preparing for the Petplan Equine Area Festival Championships held at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire from April 11-15.

Prince William MBS is a 16.3hh, seven-year-old bay gelding sired by Wish Upon a Star and is owned by Amy. The partnership clearly impressed the judges with a stylish performance achieving a winning score of 72.85 per cent.

Bridgend-based rider Amy was delighted with Prince William's performance in an exciting atmosphere with some outstanding dressage tests and exceptional combinations competing for the Petplan Equine Preliminary Silver title.

"I'm over the moon with him," beamed Amy after the presentation. "He was totally amazing and I was so happy with every part of our test. And the final centre line was our best ever!"

"We competed in another class that morning too, but it didn't

go quite so well, so when I came out in the afternoon for the Preliminary Silver class I rode every single step. I really can't believe it and it's been such a good experience," she said.

Further information about the Petplan Equine Area Festivals and how to qualify for next year's finals is available from the Petplan Equine website at: [www.petplan-equine.co.uk/area-festivals](http://www.petplan-equine.co.uk/area-festivals).

ME

**AMMANFORD really hit the ground running in this midweek encounter and seemed intent on revenge after their crushing defeat against Tondy at Pandy Park two weeks earlier.**

Their first try came after just three minutes when flanker George David crashed over from relentless early pressure, and Steffan Roberts landed the conversion to make it 7-0.

A few minutes later they had a second through No 8 Sion Williams with Tondy seemingly having no answers to Ammanford's forwards.

Full back Ceri Rees then finished a wonderful move for the next before right wing Wayne Price added a fourth for Roberts to convert.

At 24-0 to the home side you could have been forgiven for thinking the game was effectively over, but Tondy did manage to get themselves on the scoreboard on the stroke of half-time when centre Josh Tatchell sailed over in the corner and that late first half try seemed to set the tone for much of the second half.

All of a sudden Tondy were playing their trademark running rugby and a splendid move early in the second half

saw wing Aled Jones finish in the corner. Tatchell added the conversion and it was now 24-12.

Just two minutes later Tatchell crossed for the visitors third touchdown and then scrum half Gareth Lindburn sailed over for a well-worked try and, with Tatchell again adding the extra points, it was now level at 24-24 and it was difficult to comprehend what might happen next.

But we guessed what was coming when try machine Sam Grabham crashed over with around 15 minutes on the clock to put Tondy into the lead for the first time, making a remarkable comeback a real possibility.

Ammanford were now a wounded animal and this proved to be very dangerous as their forwards went on the offensive for virtually the first time in the second half with replacement second row Liam Baker crashing over to level the scores again.

This left outside half Steffan Roberts the easiest of conversions to seal a late win for the home side.

Tondy can take a lot of credit for their second half performance but on the night the honours went to the Ammanford side that just about deserved the win.

\*Turn to page 33 for news of Tondy vs Aberavon Quins.  
**MIKE SULLY**



Photograph by Geoff Caldwell, chairman of men's section.

## LADY BOWLERS CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY MILESTONE

**A day of reflection and celebration was held by the ladies of the Bridgend Municipal Bowling Club on their 65th anniversary.**

The ladies section was formed in 1953 - one year after the men's section was established.

Present and past members of both the ladies and men's sections were invited to a friendly game of bowls followed by a celebratory buffet afterwards in the club's pavilion.

A special welcome was given to Mrs Marion Wright (seen seated in the front of the main picture) who is our only surviving founder member of the club.

Marion and her late husband Christopher Charles were previous presidents of their respective sections and held annual tea parties when fresh vegetables and fruit from their own garden produce was given in hamper to the winners on that day.

In her speech to all assembled, the ladies chairperson Mrs Magda Job paid tribute to past and present members who had made the club what it is today.

She thanked everybody for coming among whom were past presidents of the club and senior members.

The current ladies president Mrs Lil Martin (left of inset photo) is seen presenting flowers to Marion Wright, accompanied by Mrs Job.

GC

## Last-gasp try turns tables for Bridgend Athletic Firsts

**FOLLOWING an excellent 38-21 bruising bonus point away win at Ystalyfera, in which they ended their unbeaten season on Saturday, the Athletic only had a three-day turnaround before facing another top side, Bonymaen, at the Morganstone Brewery Field on Tuesday, April 17.**

The Athletic and Bonymaen, with their 15-man approach, were the leading points and try scorers in Division One West Central prior to the fixture, the

Athletic with 487 points and 64 tries and Bonymaen with 466 points and 65 tries.

However, a combination of fatigue, slippery conditions and a high penalty count failed to produce an anticipated feast of tries.

The Athletic were also defending an 11-match winning league run dating back to November 4.

When Bonymaen took a 15-10 lead with two minutes remaining to a dubious try, the Athletic supporters were resigned to defeat and the run ending.

However, despite heavy legs the spirit of the team, led by captain Ben Howe, who has not tasted defeat since returning from a pre-season broken arm, refused to accept the inevitable.

From the restart they somehow summoned the energy to tear into their opponents inside the Bonymaen 22, drawing a penalty which outside half Luke Bevan kicked to touch five metres from the visitors' try line.

With the referee calling final play, hooker Nathan Holman hooked the reliable Sean Williams with the throw. Williams set up the driving maul which was halted just short of the try line.

Scrum half Dan James sniped to the try line but was held up on the line.

He managed to pass over his head to find centre Chris Price steaming towards the try line, managing to take the pass at head height before crashing over for the equalising

try. It also ensured the Athletic became the first Division One Central side to break through the 500-point barrier this season.

Leading Athletic points scorer Bevan brought his season's points tally to 179 with the conversion and a 17-15 win, which extended the winning run to 12 league games.

Price and Bevan were mobbed by their jubilant teammates, as, following the conversion, the referee blew the final whistle.

Buoyed by their win at Ystalyfera, the Athletic pinned Bonymaen in their own 22 from the kick off. With five minutes on the clock they drove a five-metre line out over the try line for veteran lock Jonathan Stoker to claim the try, which was fitting as he is the only Athletic player to play in all 21 Ath fixtures this season. Bevan converted.

Bonymaen then took control of possession and territory, aided by a succession of penalties awarded against the Ath.

Following a general warning the referee ran out of patience and sent Ath prop Wayne Fooks to the sin bin late in the half.

A second Ath yellow card saw replacement hooker Nathan Holman suffer the same fate as Fooks a minute after replacing Lee Murphy on the hour mark.

Excellent defence mainly from the back row of Ben Howe, Sean Williams and Ben Davies and centres Tom Jenkins and Chris Price

prevented the visitors capitalising on their numerical advantage.

The final 10 minutes saw the scoreboard spring into life.

Bonymaen stretched the Athletic across the field and an illegal tackle saw the referee run under the posts to award a penalty try.

From the restart Bonymaen were penalised and Bevan restored the Athletic lead.

It was déjà vu as the Athletic were penalised from the Bonymaen restart and James Sturgess levelled the scores at 10-10.

With two minutes remaining as the Athletic waited for play to be halted for a blatant forward pass,

Bonymaen capitalised on the referee somehow missing it and wing Nathan Brooks crossed in the corner for an unconverted try.

Showing amazing never-say-die character, Athletic, virtually out on their feet, turned the tables with the winning converted try during the final play of the match.

The Athletic would like to thank match sponsor Phil McCardle of Argies Coffee for sponsoring the game.

As a former Bonymaen player and committeeman before moving to Bridgend and taking up with the Athletic and sponsoring this fixture over several years, he has dual loyalty whichever way the result goes.

AB

## LUCKY 13 FOR THE ATH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 40

Athletic prop Andrew Brown, lock Ben Cording and wing Liam Phillips then came off the bench.

A clean break and touchline run by Chris Price, who, with three impressive displays in a week, has cemented the No 13 jersey, created a second try for No 8 Sean Williams with a well-timed inside pass.

Williams is now the leading try scorer this season for the Athletic with 10 touchdowns. Bevan's conversion took him to 191 points for the season.

Man of the match Williams then turned provider, making a touchline break before putting wing Jacob David over for the final Athletic try, and his second in successive games.

This win guarantees the Athletic, currently second in the league, a minimum of a third-place finish this season.

This coming Saturday the team visit Bonymaen, who will be smarting from a final play 17-15

Athletic win against them last week.

Coaches John Apsee, Stuart Morris, David Williams and Gerald Williams will be looking to visit unbeaten league leaders Maesteg Quins in the Athletics' final game of the season on May 5 with their own winning sequence intact to set up a fitting final game of a great season.

After losing three of their opening four fixtures, the coaches have supervised a remarkable transformation winning 15 of the last 16.

**LLANDOVERY SECOND XV 44, BRIDGEND ATHLETIC SECOND XV 29** Bridgend Athletic visited Llandoverly for a WRU Conference game with only 16 players.

Four - Jack House, Tom Morgan, Jack Leyshon and Jamie Evans - were making their first Ath appearances of the season.

Props House and Morgan, back in green and gold, turned in impressive performances. Scrum

half and captain Nick Jones returned after a long-term hand injury to put in a strong performance out of position in the back row.

With so many new faces mistakes were inevitable with Llandoverly capitalising with three of their four tries resulting from interceptions.

The Athletic lineout went well, and the forwards, with Aaron Mordecai to the fore, put in a strong performance.

A good series of forward pick and drives culminated in hooker Lewis Down crossing for his third try of the season.

An impressive 50-metre turn of speed from wing Will Williams saw him cross for the second Athletic try. Outside half Scott Jones was deadly off the tee, converting both tries and slotting five penalties for a match haul of 19 points to become the leading second XV points scorer this season with 65.

AB



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## Family Notices

### DAVIES

#### David Thomas

Dave, of Lower Monkton Farm, passed away peacefully, following excellent care at The Manor House, St Hilary on Monday, 16th April, aged 94 years. Beloved husband of the late Morfydd, much loved uncle to all his nieces and nephews.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, 27th April, service and interment 3pm at St Mary's Church, Monknash. No flowers by request, donations, if desired, to Prostate Cancer c/o the funeral director.

### JAMES

#### Colin

Passed away on 9th April 2018. Brother of Susan and Catherine and brother-in-law of Graham and Howard. Loving husband to the late Anne and the late Linda.

Resting at Robert D. Johnson Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry. Funeral service to take place at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Monday, 30th April at 10am.

Donations in lieu of flowers will be greatly received by Colin's family to The Dogs Trust - these can be made at the service or given to the funeral director.

### RYAN

#### Janis Mary (née White)

Peacefully after a short illness on 14th April 2018, Janis, aged 63 years. Beloved wife of Lyndon, much loved mum of Jane, Lisa, Lyndon, Paul and Amy. Cherished nan and grandma to all her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Janis will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service in the Chapel of Rest on Wednesday, 2nd May at 1pm, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home.

### EVANS

#### Richard Anthony

Sadly on 14th April 2018, Richard, aged 77 years, of Rhose, passed away at University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Beloved husband of Susan and cherished dad to Brett, Tim and Mark. Adored granfather of Matthew, Thomas, Laura and Ieuan. He will be greatly missed by his loving family and friends.

Resting at Park Funeral Home, 7 Tynewydd Road, Barry until his funeral service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Tuesday, 8th May 2018 at 1pm. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, may be made to Myloma UK.

### BOARD

#### Mary Elizabeth (née Thomas)

Mary passed away on 18th April 2018 at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Beloved wife of the late John Board (latterly Penmark), dearly loved mother of Colin, Clive and Sheila. Loved and respected mother-in-law of Jenny, Jane and Phill. Adored grandmother and great grandmother. A loving sister to all her family.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Wednesday, 9th May, private cremation followed by a celebration of her life at St Mary's Church, Penmark at 2.15pm. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to the Stroke Association c/o the funeral director.

### SALTER

#### Stanely Robert (Stan)

Peacefully at Llandough Hospital on 15th April, Robert Stanley (Stan), aged 82 years, of Barry, previously of Ely, Cardiff and Llandough. Dearly loved father of Robert, Mathew, Victoria and Fiona. Cherished grandfather of Gemma, Eve, Jack, Benjamin and Osian and great grandfather of Honey. Loved brother of Roger.

Stan will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Wednesday, 9th May. Service at St David's Church, Cowbridge Road West, Ely, Cardiff at 11.30am, followed by interment at Western Cemetery. Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for LATCH.

### BAYNHAM

#### Denzal Thomas

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend on Wednesday, 18th April. Denz, beloved husband and best friend of Shirley, loving father to Gavin and the late Michele. Much loved bampy to Kayleigh and Seren.

Denz will be dearly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Thursday, 3rd May, service 2pm at St Iltyd's Church, Llantwit Major, followed by interment at Llantwit Major Cemetery, Boverton Road. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to Kidney Research or Marie Curie c/o the funeral director.

### BERNARD KING

(27.08.1988 - 25.03.2018)

Ray, Ris and Melissa King are sad to announce the sudden and unexpected passing of their beloved son and brother while he was working in Greece.

The funeral will take place in Coychurch Crematorium, Wednesday, 2nd May 2018 at 9.30am. In lieu of flowers, the family are kindly requesting donations to Mountain Rescue England and Wales (www.mountainrescue.org.uk) or cheques may be given to or sent to W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major.

### STEPHENS

#### Pearl Ida (née Collier) (Formerly Fitzpatrick)

Peacefully at Llandough Hospital on 13th April 2018, Pearl, beloved wife of Steve, much loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Pearl is sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Wednesday, 2nd May at 11am.

Flowers may be sent or donations in lieu, if so desired, for Dementia UK c/o the funeral director.

### STRANGWARD

#### Rita May (née Searle)

Peacefully at The Forge on 15th April 2018, Rita, aged 95 years, lifelong resident of Clive Road, Barry Island. Beloved wife of the late Doug, much loved mum of Joy.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service in the Chapel of Rest on Thursday, 3rd May at 10am, followed by Committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Donations in lieu of flowers shall be collected on the day for Barry Lifeboat. Please wear colourful attire, gentlemen no black tie.

### CLEMENTS

#### Anthony Alfred (Tony)

Suddenly on 10th April at Llandough Hospital, Anthony Alfred (Tony), aged 78 years, of Gladstone Road, Barry. Dearly loved husband of Margaret, a loved father of Chris and Joanne and father-in-law of Susan. Cherished grandfather of Liam, Daniel, Stephen and Declan. Tony will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry until his funeral on Tuesday, 8th May, service and committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 12 noon. Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for the Royal British Legion.

### HARKUS

#### Raymond William

Peacefully after a long illness at Llandough Hospital on 12th April 2018, Raymond, aged 80 years. Beloved husband of the late Patricia and much loved father of Ashley. Adored grandpa of Elizabeth and dearly loved brother of Irene, Joan, Bonnie, Kenny, Colin and Dennis. Also loving partner of Norma.

Raymond will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service and committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Wednesday, 2nd May at 4pm. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if so desired, for Ward East 18, Llandough Hospital or Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth c/o the funeral director.

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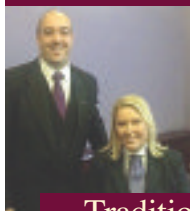
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## Family Notices

## EVANS

### Lavinia

Lavinia, of Gwenog Court, Barry, passed away peacefully on 10th April 2018 at the University Hospital of Wales with her devoted son Mark by her side. Lavinia, beloved wife of the late John. Much cherished and loving mother of Michael, Maureen, Tony, Patrick, Marilyn and Mark. Adored grandmother and great grandmother. Lavinia will be greatly missed by all that knew her. She will live on in our memories and hearts.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Barry until the service on Friday, 4th May at 3pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

For all further enquiries please contact Co-op Funeralcare, Llanrumney. Tel. 02920 360 884.

## WHITE

### Arthur John

Arthur sadly passed away on 29th March 2018. Funeral service to be held at Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Thursday, 3rd May 2018 at 10am. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if desired, would be appreciated to Velindre Hospital c/o Green Willow Funerals. All enquiries to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE. Tel: 029 2051 4627.

## MORTIMER

**Esme Rosemary (née Phillips)**

Peacefully on 11th April at Springbank Nursing Home - Esme, at the grand age of 93 years, a well-known local Primary School Teacher at Holton Road, Gladstone, Gibbonsdown and Cadoton schools, sadly passed away. Loving Wife of the late Ken, devoted Mum to Tony and Peter, much loved Mother-in-Law of Tegwyn and Joanna. Cherished Nana of Tom, Neil and Rowi, and Great Nana of Anya, Dylan, Riya and Ava-Iris.

Esme will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, Barry until her service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Monday, 30th April at 2pm.

Family flowers only - donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support Mencap for which Esme happily volunteered her time and which gave her great pleasure.

Further enquiries contact Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962.

## DONOVAN

### Marian Myfanwy

Suddenly but peacefully at the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff on 6th April, Marian, a former midwife at Cardiff and Vale Hospitals. Dearly beloved wife of Paul, much loved mother of Leah, Shawn and Aled Owain. Adored mammy of Nia, Poppy and Harri Owain.

Marian will be sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting in the care of A.G. Adams Funeralcare, Gladstone Road, Barry until her funeral service at The Tabernacle Chapel, Holton Road, Barry on Thursday, 3 May at 10.15am, followed by cremation at the Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 12 noon.

Family flowers only but donations in lieu of flowers to The Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charities, Harefield Hospital, Hill End Road, Harefield, UB9 6JH.

## KING

### Vera (Kennedy)

Passed away peacefully after a short illness at UHW on 2nd April 2018, just short of her 100th birthday. Vera, beloved wife of the late George King and the late Trevor Kennedy. Loving mother of Georgina and mother-in-law to Neil. Dear step mother to John, Roger, Brian and their families. Much loved grandmother to Matthew and Tracey and a cherished great grandmother to Daniel, Ellie and Samuel.

Resting at D.Caesar Jones Funeral Home, 55 Pantbach Road, Rhiwbina until the service at St Peter's Church, Dinas Powys, where Vera was the organist for 35 years, on Thursday, 3rd May at 2pm, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 3pm.

Family flowers only. Donations, if so desired, can be made to The British Heart Foundation c/o the funeral home.

## PHILLIPS

### Frederick Thomas 'Phil 40'

#### Late 1st Bn The Welch Regiment

Suddenly but peacefully at home on Saturday, 14th April 2018, Phil of Beach Road, Porthcawl. Devoted husband of Beryl. A beloved uncle of Mike and Patricia & Alun and Carol.

Funeral service on Tuesday, 1st May 2018 in Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 10.30am. Family flowers only by request but donations will be gratefully received for SSAFA and may be sent direct to SSAFA, 4 St Dunstan's Hill, London, EC3R 8AD.

All enquiries to Rosemount Funeral Home, 19 Coychurch Road, Bridgend, CF31 3AP. Telephone 01656 653156.

## In Memory

## MONTGOMERY

### 29th April

Birthday Memories of our dear grandson, Jordan. Thinking of you always and always in our hearts. Love always Nan & Gramps xxx

## PYCROFT

### Dr. Jason

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Always in our thoughts - never forgotten  
'Till we meet again  
Mum and Dad

## In Memory

## KAY CHEESEMAN

5.12.43 - 24.4.08

If tears could build a stairway,  
and memories a lane.  
We would walk the path to heaven,  
and bring you home again.

Mum, we love and miss you more and more each day. The loss seems like forever, the pain as intense as only yesterday.  
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**DAVID JAMES PARKER (Deceased)**

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**Asset and Infrastructure Engineering Ltd** trading as **ai engineering** of 14 Commercial Street, Kenfig Hill, Bridgend, CF33 6DL is applying for a licence to use 29 Village Farm Road, Pyle, Bridgend, CF33 6BL as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicles and 0 trailers. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

## Public Notice Licensing Act 2003

To whom it may concern, we, **Baroque Penarth Limited**, do hereby give notice that we have applied to the Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the grant of a premises licence at: **18 Windsor Road, CF64 1JH** known as **Play**. The application is for the sale of alcohol, provision of regulated entertainment, late night refreshment between the hours of 08:00 and 02:30 with an additional hour to be permitted immediately following on from the start of British Summer Time and on New Years Eve going into New Years Day. Any persons wishing to make representations to this application may do so in writing to the Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU, or by email to licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk not later than 3rd May 2018. Representations received after this date will not be considered. A copy of this application can be viewed at the Civic Offices at normal office hours. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000. Signed: K Williams. Date 5 April 2018.

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## Public Notices

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

### Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

#### Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:	2018/00222/FUL
/Rhif y cais:	2018/00222/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and construction of a two storey rear extension including access ramp and erection of flag pole
Location/Lleoliad:	Village Hall/Scout Hall, Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth:	Dinas Powys
Application No:	2018/00279/FUL
/Rhif y cais:	2018/00279/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Proposed pair of semi-detached 2 bedroom dwellings
Location/Lleoliad:	Rear of 2, Stanwell Road, Penarth
Conservation Area/Ardal Gadwraeth:	Penarth

**Listed Building Consent/ Caniatâd Adeilad Rhedredig**

Application No:	2017/01026/LBC
/Rhif y cais:	2017/01026/LBC
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Proposed internal alterations and existing window to first floor side elevation re-established
Location/Lleoliad:	The Old School House, Adjacent to The Rectory, Llandough
Listed Building/Adeilad Rhedredig:	Grade II
Application No:	2018/00363/LBC
/Rhif y cais:	2018/00363/LBC
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Regularisation of changes to approved development
Location/Lleoliad:	Pen Y Bryn, Pen Y Lan Road, Aberthir
Listed Building/Adeilad Rhedredig:	Grade II
Application No:	2018/00375/LBC
/Rhif y cais:	2018/00375/LBC
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Replacement of existing windows which are rotting with similar wooden windows with double glazed units
Location/Lleoliad:	Great House Court, Church Lane, Welsh St. Donats
Listed Building/Adeilad Rhedredig:	Grade II

#### Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhedredig

Application No:	2018/00324/FUL
/Rhif y cais:	2018/00324/FUL
Proposal/Cynnyg:	Regularisation of various elements from previously approved permissions, including construction of retaining wall, boundary treatment and rear gable extension
Location/Lleoliad:	Pen y Bryn, Pen y Lan Road, Aberthir
Listed Building/Adeilad Rhedredig:	Affecting Pen Y Bryn, Grade II

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

**Dated / Dyddiedig: 26 April, 2018**

**V. L. Robinson**  
Operational Manager,  
Regeneration and Planning,  
Vale of Glamorgan Council,  
Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT



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# Tondu stuck in the mud against Aberavon Quins

ABERAVON Quins began this game against Tondu RFC as if they meant business in conditions that made it uncertain if it would even go ahead.

A clever kick ahead by outside half Foard Cooksley set up winger Rory Hinchcliffe for the opening try after only two minutes, centre Lewis Cronin adding the extra points.

Josh Tatchell then kicked a penalty for the visitors before a clever break from scrum half Gareth Lindenburn sent outside half Paul Smithson over under the posts.

A sensational move then produced the try of the match for Tondu when a Tatchell break saw Matthew Murphy and Aled Jones involved before Tatchell himself finished the move and added the conversion to make the scoreline 7-17, and it was looking good for the visitors.

However the Quins were not going to be denied and reduced the deficit with a try for scrum half Nathan Flynn.



Aled Jones on the ball. PICTURE BY GARETH ANTHONY, see more online at: glamorgangem.co.uk

Cronin added the conversion and a penalty to level the scores before right wing Jordan Condon scored to give the home side a 24-20 half-time lead.

The Quins struck again early in the second half when Cooksley went over for a try before a five-metre scrum saw Matthew Morgan claim a push over try for the Waterwheelers to take the score to 29-27 and the game looked there for the taking for Tondu.

Unfortunately the Quins had other ideas, scoring a further try through Condon which Cronin duly converted.

He also added a penalty to give his side a deserved victory on a night that really wasn't made for fluent rugby, so well done to both sides for producing quite a spectacle.

Tondu play their final game away to Maesteg Quins on Wednesday, May 9, but don't forget the Enoch Lewis Cup final between Tondu seconds and Heol Y Cyw seconds at Llanharan on Saturday, May 5, kick-off 2.30pm.

\*See news from Tondu's game against Ammanford on page 27.

MIKE SULLY

## Bridgend Lions host a swimming gala



Beaver Master Tiffany Morgan of the 1st Glamorgan Baden Powell traditional Scouts group with her son Henri and Lion registration officer Bryant.

BRIDGEND Lions recently hosted a swimming gala at Ynysawdre Swimming Pool on April 22, when all who attended enjoyed a 'splashing' good time and in excess of £1,000 was raised for local charities.

Vice-president Lion Tony Gates wishes to thank the clubs and schools that attended, the staff of the pool and the generous sponsors.

Beaver Master Tiffany Morgan's group from the 1st Glamorgan



Lion Vice-President Tony Gates with Mr Howard from Penybont Gateway Club.

Scout group swam many lengths in the gala, as did Tiffany herself.

Anyone wishing to

join the group at Laleston Church Hall can contact Tiffany at tiffytiffyapple@hotmail.com.

CT

# Community raises cash to send Michelle to World Cup Masters

THE Porthcawl community has raised over £1,000 to help a local woman represent Wales in a major netball event.

Michelle Hancock will be representing Wales in the World Cup Masters Tournament in Barcelona this July.

Local man Kerry Marlow, better known in the town as the organiser of the Porthcawl carnival, enlisted the help of the Co-op community fund, and a number of local groups.

Kerry is a community Pioneer for the Co-op's fund, where customers can sign up and a percentage of their spend will automatically go to local charities.

He told The GEM: "We raised more than a £1,000 to support Michelle. Thank you to The Ancient Briton Pub, Porthcawl Town Athletic, The Co-op and the community of Porthcawl for donating generously for Michelle to go to Barcelona."

## BRIDGE RESULTS

THE results for recent events at Bridgend Bridge Club are:

Wednesday, October 25: First, Norma and David Newman; Second, David Bowen and David Crompton; Third, Tony Disley and John Evans.

The winners on handicap were Norma and David Newman.

Thursday, October 26: First, Christine and John Evans; Second, Glyn Williams and Joan Ralph; Third, Rosalie Clode and Stuart Davies.

The winners on handicap were Frances Robertson and Lyn Froud.

Friday, October 27: First, Irene Thomas and Emer Disley; Second, Mari Jones and Irene Wickham; Third, Steve Burgoyne and John Evans.

The winners on handicap were Irene Thomas and Emer Disley.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesdays and Fridays at Norton Church Hall. Play is scheduled to start at 7pm, to enable a prompt start it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Norton Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding.

Lessons: There will be a new series for beginners on Wednesdays from 4pm-6pm starting on September 13, again in Norton Church Hall.

For further information about the lessons and other club activities, please contact 01656 661968, 01656 880372 or 01656 649138.



Pictured above are Lewis Pearce (Co-op manager, right) and Kerry Marlow (left) with Michelle Hancock, Martyn Morgan and Ray Walker from Porthcawl Town Athletic

## YOUTH PLAYERS SIGN CONTRACTS WITH OSPREYS

Congratulations to Bridgend Athletic Youth players Joe Graham and Caine Woolerton, who are named among 11 players who will graduate from age-grade rugby with the Ospreys to train as part of the 'B' group day in, day out at Llandarcy Academy of Sport.

The extended group announced is the largest ever intake in one summer, in preparation for the new development structure that begins next season, with the introduction of a new under-23 competition underneath the senior team.

The teenagers have been identified as having the potential to become the latest home-grown players from the youth development pathway to become fully fledged Ospreys, and will work closely with senior coaches and players when they report for pre-season training in the summer.

Garth Walters, development pathway manager, Ospreys Rugby, added: "One of the biggest challenges that the players now face is asserting themselves in senior rugby which is always a challenging transition."

Dan Griffiths, rugby general manager, Ospreys Rugby, said: "The landscape of Welsh rugby is changing and it's an exciting time for players on the development pathway. Next season will see an entirely different format to the season for these players and it will develop year-on-year."

"There is now a clearly defined pathway for players, through regional age-grade and the premiership, graduating into the under-23 team which

will underpin the senior Ospreys side.

"This allows us to give players the best support at each stage of their development, enabling them to achieve their full potential while they test themselves against a higher level of opponent."

Caine Woolerton - full back (18, Bridgend Athletic RFC, Brynteg Comprehensive, Pencoed College) is an exciting player with an impressive skill set. He offers an attacking threat and operates very efficiently in the wider channels and has the ability to make space for others.

Joe Graham - open side flanker (18, Bridgend Athletic, Brynteg Comprehensive) is a busy seven with a real

competitive edge to his game. His attitude reflects his game, in being more than willing to do the hard work and graft. A good all-round athlete.

Both Caine and Joe, the son of Youth head coach Lee Graham, have been with the Athletic since under-7 level. Last season, while first year youth players, they played regularly for the Athletic Youth side that topped the Ospreys A league, and then helped the Athletic Youth defeat the champions of the other regions leagues to be crowned Welsh League champions as the best Youth side in Wales.

They have also been cornerstones of the Ath Brynteg Youth this season, with Joe as captain. They have it in their own

hands to retain the Ospreys A league title. Both have been regulars in the Ospreys Academy Youth set-up this season - Joe as captain on one occasion and numerous games as pack leader.

Caine, a versatile back who has played every back position for the Athletic, last week played twice at full back for the Athletic First team, helping them give Ystalyfera their first league defeat of the season and narrowly defeat another top Division One West Central side Bonymaen. Joe, unfortunately, has been side lined with a foot injury.

The club wish both players well for their future rugby careers and will follow their careers with interest.

AB

## Athletic players help Brynteg to cup final win

ON a hot sunny Wednesday April 18, at the Principality Stadium, Brynteg School overcame a 3-0 half time deficit to win the 'Spirit of Youth' Schools Cup Final, overcoming Preseli by 19-10.

Captained by Bridgend Athletic centre Joe Patterson, Ath youth prop Chris Crumpton scored the first Brynteg try, with Orun Harry adding a brace. Athletic youth half back Matthew Hobby slotted two conversions.

In all, nine Ath Youth players started the game alongside Patterson, Hobby and Crumpton. Others were Tom Zielinski, Jack Obbard, Tom Davies, Danny Osargie, Kasari Mehta and Cameron Lewis.

Ben Owen came off the bench, while Finlay Mullens, Harry Ridge and Connor Fabian were unused replacements. Dan O'Sullivan was unlucky to miss out, carrying an injury from the semi-final win.

Great credit must go to the Brynteg coaches, Mr Adam Rosser and Mr Joe Gatt, while Lee Graham, Kevin Gamble, Keith Hobby, Paul Obbard and Mike Groom have also provided additional help in coaching the Brynteg contingent from the Ath.

Brynteg have developed more British Lions and Welsh senior internationals than any school in Wales. Their eight British Lions include Jack Matthews, JPR Williams, Gareth Williams, Mike Hall, Rob Howley, Dafydd James, Gavin Henson and Rhys Webb.

Among the 19 Welsh internationals, current Ath senior coaching assistant Gerald Williams features. Since the commencement of the Athletic Mini and Junior Section in 1992, current Welsh internationals Rhys Webb, Scott Baldwin and Josh Navidi have played at both Brynteg and Athletic mini, junior and youth set ups.

There is also a great bond between the legendary Jack Matthews and Brynteg and the Athletic. Former Brynteg pupil Dr Jack, was born at the current Athletic clubhouse in Ewenny Road, Bridgend.

He officially opened the BARFC clubhouse in 1982 and a plaque stands where Dr Jack's room, as a baby and later Brynteg pupil, once stood.

Perhaps it was then fated such a link would be forged with Brynteg and the Athletic developing many current excellent rugby players.

Brynteg are always welcome and have regularly used the Ath facilities to host touring sides playing against them.

Adrian Burt



# The crowds flock to a busy Llangeinor Pentyrch Point-To-Point Steeplechases

## PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

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THE Llangeinor Pentyrch Point-To-Point Steeplechases at the Dunraven Stud, Llanmihangel Farm, Pyle, last Saturday was a well-attended event, with plenty of action keep racegoers enthused throughout the day. Photographer Glyn Evans was on hand to capture the action, and turn to page 39 for Brian Lee's report on the day.





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- 15 65 MERCEDES GLA220 CDI AMG Line Premium Plus 5dr 4MATIC, pan roof, reverse camera, 19" alloys, 14k, south seas blue, half leather .....£22495
- 15 65 MERCEDES GLE250 CDI AMG Line 4MATIC 5dr automatic, Mercedes warranty Nov 2018, sat nav, 20" alloys, 17k, white, full leather .....£31995
- 15 15 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 COOPER S ALL4 5dr (Sport & TLC pack) MINI warranty July 2018, Bluetooth, USB, 22k, blue, full leather .....£15495
- 14 14 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 Cooper S ALL4 3dr (190bhp)(Chili & TLC Pack) 18" alloys, heated seats, Bluetooth, black, full leather .....£10995
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- 14 63 VOLVO XC60 TD R-Design Lux 5dr 4WD, cruise, 18" alloys, grey, full leather .....£14995
- 16 16 VOLVO XC60 2.0 TD D4 SE Lux 5dr 4WD Geartronic, Volvo warranty March 2019, sat nav, 18" alloys, 17k, magic blue, full leather .....£21995
- 16 66 VOLVO XC60 2.4 D4 SE Lux Nav Estate 4X4 Gearbox, Volvo warranty Sep 2019, sat nav, 15k, silver, full leather .....£21995
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16 16 BMW 116 DSE 5dr automatic, BMW warranty May 2019, sat nav, cruise, 22k, white .....	£13995
16 16 BMW 218i Sport 2dr, BMW warranty April 2019, sat nav, cruise, 17" alloys, 26k, grey .....	£14995
15 65 BMW 220 D M Sport Active Tourer 5dr automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2018, sat nav, heated seats, 34k, black, full leather ..	£16995
16 65 BMW 320d BluePerformance ED plus 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Feb 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, 24k, grey, full beige leather .....	£16495
16 66 BMW 330e Sport 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Sep 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 12k, mineral white .....	£21495
15 65 BMW 330 D M Sport 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2018, pro nav, Bluetooth, 29k, grey, full red leather .....	£18995
15 15 BMW 320 D ED Business Edition Estate, sat nav, met grey, full leather .....	£11995
13 13 BMW 340 D Modern Gran Turismo 5dr automatic, 19" alloys, reverse camera, 37k, grey, full oyster leather .....	£14995
13 63 BMW 435i M Sport 2dr coupe automatic, pro media, 19" alloys, head-up display, comfort access, 4k, white, full leather .....	£22995
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11 61 BMW 520 D M Sport Estate automatic, privacy glass, heated seats, white, full leather .....	£9995
15 64 BMW 520 DSE 4dr automatic (190bhp) sat nav, Bluetooth, grey, full leather .....	£12995
15 65 BMW 640 D M Sport Gran Coupe 4dr automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2018, sat nav, 19" alloys, 27k, silver, full leather .....	£23995
15 65 BMW 13 E 5dr automatic, BMW warranty Jan 2019, DC rapid charge prep, sat nav, 19" alloys, heated seats, 13k, white .....	£15995
15 15 CITROEN C1 1.0 VTI Feel 3dr, Bluetooth, aircon, USB, 11k, white .....	£5495
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16 16 DS DSA 1.6 BlueHDI Crossback 5dr, Citroen warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 18" alloys, 19k, met red, half leather .....	£11495
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15 15 JAGUAR XF 2.2 D Portfolio 4dr automatic, Jaguar warranty April 2018, sat nav, heated seats, reverse camera, silver, 31k, full leather .....	£16995
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17 67 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI GT-Line S Estate 5dr DCT automatic, Kia warranty Sep 2024, panoramic roof, sat nav, privacy glass, 7k, black, full leather .....	£19995
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15 65 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Night Editon 7G-Tronic plus Estate, Mercedes warranty Sep 2018, sat nav, DAB Bluetooth, choice, full leather .....	£18995
14 64 MERCEDES GLA200 CDI SE Executive 5dr 7G-DCT, sat nav, reverse camera, 15k, silver, full leather .....	£17995
13 13 MERCEDES SML250 CDI Blueefficiency 2dr 7G-Tronic Plus, Bluetooth, 26k, black .....	£12995
16 66 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 D COOPER 6dr, sat nav, chilli pack, 10k, white .....	£13995
14 14 MINI COOPER 1.6 2dr convertible, chilli + TLC pack, pdc, dab, 11k, kite blue, full leather .....	£11495
15 65 MINI COOPER S 2.0 3dr (Chili + TLC pack) Mini warranty Jan 2019, Bluetooth, privacy glass, USB, 18k, deep blue, half leather .....	£12995
15 65 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr (Chili + Media XL Pack) Mini warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, LED lights, choice .....	£9495
14 64 MINI COUPE 1.6 Cooper 2dr, chilli + TLC pack, 17" alloys, heated seats, 25k, white, half-leather .....	£8495
14 64 NISSAN 370Z 3.7 V6 Nismo 2dr Coupe (340bhp), sat nav, reverse camera, BOSE, 27k, black .....	£23995
15 65 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-TEC+ 5dr, Nissan warranty Nov 2018, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 19k, black .....	£13995
15 15 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 THP GTI 3dr (200bhp) Peugeot warranty Aug 2018, sat nav, pan roof, 12k, white, half leather .....	£10995
15 64 PEUGEOT 5008 1.6 HDi Allure 5dr (7-seater) sat nav, reverse camera, panoramic roof, blue, full leather .....	£8995
14 64 PEUGEOT RCZ 2.0 HDi Sport 2dr, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 30k, black .....	£10495
13 63 RANGE ROVER 2.2 SD4 Pure 5dr, tech pack, sat nav, pan roof, white with full leather .....	£19995
15 15 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Energy Dynamique 5dr, Renault warranty Aug 2018, sat nav, 26k, white with black roof & mirror caps .....	£8995
15 65 RENAULT KADJAR 1.6 DCI Signature 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, met red .....	£12495
17 67 SEAT LEON 1.6 TDI SE Dynamic Technology Estate, Seat warranty Sep 2020, sat nav, 17" alloys, PDC, 7k, grey .....	£13995
16 16 SKODA YETI 2.0 TDI SCR SE L 5dr, Skoda warranty May 2019, 17" alloys, cruise, 9k, silver, full leather .....	£13995
15 64 TOYOTA AURIS 1.8 VVT-i Excel e-CVT HSD 5dr automatic, Toyota warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, heated seats, 11k, white .....	£14995
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16 16 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech SE 5dr DSG automatic, VW warranty Aug 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, 28k, white .....	£20995



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15 65 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 CDTi Tech Line 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Dec 2018, sat nav, cruise, 23k, white  
**£10995**



**JAGUAR WARRANTY DEC 2018**  
15 65 JAGUAR XE 2.0 T0 R-Sport 4dr automatic, Jaguar warranty Dec 2018, panoramic roof, sat nav, 37k, grey, full two tone leather  
**£17995**



**MERCEDES WARRANTY SEPT 2018**  
15 65 MERCEDES E220 CDI BlueTEC AMG Night Edition 4dr 7-G Tronic Plus, Mercedes warranty Oct 2018, sat nav, privacy glass, choice, full leather  
**£17995**



**VW WARRANTY JULY 2020**  
17 17 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI GTI 5dr, VW warranty July 2020, panoramic roof, sat nav, 19" alloys, 5k, oryx white  
**£23995**



**BMW WARRANTY APR 2019**  
16 16 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr, widescreen sat nav, 19" alloys, in white with full black leather  
**£19995**



**£7295**  
10 10 MAZDA MX-5 1.8 20TH Anniversary 2dr convertible, 17" alloys, aircon, 32k, met blue



**FORD WARRANTY SEPT 2018**  
15 15 FORD FIESTA 1.0 ecoBOOST Titanium 5dr, Ford warranty Sep 2018, cruise, Bluetooth, DAB, 8k, deep impact blue  
**£8995**



**BMW WARRANTY APR 2019**  
16 16 BMW 520 DM Sport 4dr (190bhp) automatic, sat nav, choice, full leather  
**£18495**



**£12995**  
15 64 VW POLO 1.4 TSI BlueMotion Tech ACT BlueGT 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, 17" alloys, 9k, white



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14 64 MERCEDES A180 CDI Sport 5dr 7G-DCT, cruise, Bluetooth, black



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15 15 AUDI A3 1.6 TDI S-Line 5dr, cruise, xenons, Bluetooth, met grey



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17 17 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr (7-Seater), sat nav, pan roof, 18k, white, full leather



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15 15 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech GTD 5dr, xenons, 18" alloys, black



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16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 Tekna Xtronic 5dr CVT, Nissan warranty March 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 17k, grey, full leather

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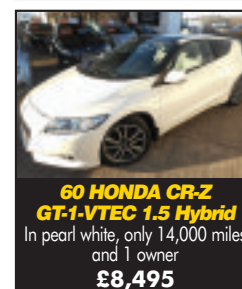
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# Golf club cash boost for Health Charity



**PICTURED:** Derek Smith, general manager of Cottrell Park Golf Resort, Mrs Lucie Barrett from Cardiff and Vale Health Charity with Jeanette and fellow lady golfers, Ms Maria Mahlia, Ms Rowena McCarthy and Ms Ann Morgan.

**JEANETTE WILLIAMS, Ladies' captain of Cottrell Park Golf Resort for 2017, presented the Cardiff and Vale Health Charity with a donation of £1,000 raised in 12 months through golf days, afternoon teas and individual donations during Jeanette's captaincy.**

Jeanette chose the charity, which fundraises to support all the wards, clinics, departments and research areas in Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, in memory of her daughter Fiona.

The donation will be used to benefit patients of the Haematology Department at University Hospital Llandough.

Dr Ala Al-Sabah, consultant haematologist, said: "I am very grateful for Jeanette's generous donation and support of our hospital. We are in the process of introducing recliner chairs for patients receiving chemotherapy treatment in Llandough Haematology Day Unit.

"This donation will directly go to this purpose and make our patients more comfortable. It would be much more difficult to do without Jeanette's kindness, and the generosity of many other patients, family and friends. My sincere thanks to Jeanette and all the Resort and club members who have donated."

# Veterans in Continental 5-2 victory drama



**WALES veterans' over-50s league champions, The Continental, overcame Mathen of Chepstow in the last game of the season to clinch the title with a 5-2 win.**

The players' ages range from 50 to 62. Congratulations to all players and management and here's to the next season.

MR

# Isabel's challenge

**LLANCARFAN'S Isabel Williams is making a bold bid to become Wales' leading lady point-to-point rider.**

At the recent Tivyside Hunt Steeplechases at Lydstep she chalked-up her fourth win of the season on her grandmother's Mary Evans' Hold Court, which used to run under Rules when trained by Isabel's father Evan Williams.

Hold Court, an 11-year-old brown gelding, out to make it four times

won cleverly from this season. Highly Unlikely in a field of five runners in the Conditions race.

Isabel's main rival is Pembrokeshire's Jodie Hughes who made it five wins for the current season when scoring on Darwin Dancer (Maiden Conditions) and Kelsey (Timico Mixed) Open.

Jodie, who has been race riding for some 18 years, has been Welsh ladies' champion rider on three occasions in the past, and she will be all out to make it four times

Other winners at Lydstep were Qalinas, which gave Jessica Prince her first winning ride when landing the members' race.

Carmen Goldsworthy's Captain Camelot took the Conditions race under James King and Lorcan Williams won the Restricted on Full Print. Bradley Gibbs rode his 19th winner of the season when winning the open Maiden on Midnight Folie.

BRIAN LEE

# Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

**WITH the fixtures piling up after a seven week enforced break, midweek fixtures look like a regular part of our week for the next month.**

Island produced a stunning result to defeat title favourites FC Barry Belgrade 3-2 in what was the evening's shock result.

Josh Manning, Louis Angove and Craig Gilbert produced the goals that saw Island produce the goods.

Coupled with league leaders St Athan routing Cowbridge Town 4-0, Belgrade are now three points off the top, however still have four games in hand.

Barry Athletic continued their free-scoring return to form with a 5-0 demolition of Penarth Town: Athletic stay fourth, five points of top but having played a game less.

In Division Two, it was all square in both games as BV continued their mini revival with a 2-2 draw against Vale Madrid while St Athan B and Rhosue B played out a thrilling 4-4 draw.

In the cups, Sully Sports made the final four of the Supporters Cup with a 2-1 win over Cwm Talwg where they will play Cardiff Airport after their win over Penarth Town B.

In the Dockers Cup, Cadroxton Barry ran riot to hammer Glenbrook 10-0.

Onto the weekend's action, and Ben Pearce struck to fire Barry Athletic into the ASRS Cup final this Sunday as

they edged past league leaders St Athan in dramatic fashion. Athletic will face FC Barry Belgrade in that final at Jenner Park, as they gained a modicum of revenge for the midweek loss by defeating Island Marine 2-0 in the other semi-final. The final to be played this Sunday, 2.15pm kick off.

In the Supporters Cup, the double is still on for league leaders Sully Sports as they finally dispatched Cardiff Airport after extra time 5-2.

They will play Tynenydd who were victorious 2-0 over Cogan Coronationm, the final to be played at Jenner Park on Friday, May 18.

The semi-finals of the Dockers Cup were set up as Rhosue B shocked Cadroxton Barry 2-0 to book their last four place, and favourites Llntwit Major romped into the semi-finals with a 7-1 thumping of Island Marine B.

Only a handful of league games were played as Rhosue returned to second in the Premier Division and a point off the leaders after a big 5-0 win over bottom side Penarth Town.

In Division Two, BV and Barry Albion played out a 2-2 draw, while St Athan B won a crazy game 8-6 against Glenbrook.

This Wednesday sees the semi-finals of the Barry Cup as St Athan play FC Barry Belgrade at Wenvoe and Barry Athletic play Division Two Llntwit Major at BSC barrier pitch - both games are a 6pm kick off.

HD

# Players wanted for new Vale ladies rugby team

**LLANTWIT Major RFC are looking to set up a female rugby team.**

Women's rugby is a fast growing sport within the whole of the UK and the WRU are currently holding consultations to research and develop improvements within the female game.

Unfortunately past experience has shown that female teams often fold within two years of set up, but within the Vale we are looking to set up a girl's clusters section within Barry.

This will involve girls aged between six and 15, and, within Llntwit Major, a female youth team (15 to 18 years of age) and a senior team (18 years of age upward).

The current Barry female team is amalgamating with new players in the Llntwit Major area and currently have two coaches in place - Charlie Murray, who plays for Wales, Newport Gwent Dragons, RAF team and Worcester Valkyries, and Raf Taylor, who plays for Wales, Cardiff Blues, Pontyclun and the UK Fire Service.

Both women bring a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Training takes place every Monday at Llntwit Major RFC at 6.30pm.

For more information, please email l.williams7@hotmail.co.uk.

LW

# Vale players called up for international basketball squad



**MANY congratulations to the 12 players selected for the under-16s men's European Championships to be held in San Marino in July this year.**

Six of the 12 players - Rory James, Kian Davies, Ben Evans, Mason

Grady, Jack Batacan and Adam Duncan - play for the Vale Vipers, who train in Barry and Cowbridge.

If you are a small business and would like to sponsor the team please email jonbunyan@sky.com.

NJ

# Doubles for Brace and Bradley at steeplechases

**THERE were doubles for Connor Brace and Bradley Gibbs at the well-attended Llangeinor Penttyrch Point-To-Point Steeplechases at the Dunraven Stud, Llanmihangel Farm, Pyle last Saturday.**

Brace, aged 16, grandson of David Brace OBE, on whose land the races are held on, was chalking-up his first ever double and could have made it a treble but for falling from Paint The Dream at the penultimate fence when leading the field a merry gallop in the open maiden race.

Connor's double was initiated when he took up the running two fences from the finish on his grandfather's Robin Des People in the three horse members' race to score by eight lengths from the Nick Williams-ridden Desert Roe.

Then, later in the day, on the 16.2 h.h. eight-year-old bay gelding Delkantra, he gained an easy 15 lengths win over the favourite Court In Flight (Bradley Gibbs) in the nine runner restricted.

Bradley, riding the Pip Hooley trained Sham From Milan, landed the young horse maiden.

The winning distance was three lengths but the runner-up Awesomedestination, trained by Michael Bowen, was well off the pace on the first circuit and was let down by some indifferent jumping.

Sham For Milan, a six-year-old son of Milan, has been placed in Ireland and is so easy to train Ann Hooley, aged 72, rides him at home - "He's such a lovely horse," she said.

Bradley's second win of the day came in the open maiden race on David Vaughan- Morgan's seven-year-old grey mare Welliemix who also won the best turned out award.

Welliemix, who bit her tongue during the race, had two lengths to spare over My Little Bud ridden by Charlotte Evans.

However, the unlucky horse of the race was the four-year-old Paint The Dream who looked like giving his young rider Connor Brace a hat-trick until falling at the second last obstacle.

Welliemix is trained by former successful rider Jonathan Tudor at nearby Merthyr Mawr which can be seen from the racecourse.

Michael Bowen's 12-year-old French-bred Sir Du Bearn, ridden by Regan Pallas from Narbeth who was chalking-up his first winner, took the conditions novice riders' race from the pacemaking itchyme/mScratch (Connor Brace), the official winning

distance being five lengths.

Sir Du Bearn, who was completing a five-timer, was chalking-up his 12th win and Michael said: "He was off for nine months through injury but he's just awesome and we might go for a hunter-chase at the end of the season."

Winning jockey Regan, aged 18, rides out for Bowen and we should be hearing a lot more from him in the future.

Only three went to post for the ladies' open race and it was the outsider of three the French-bred Tiger Rag, ridden by his owner/trainer Anna Lewis, who was successful finishing two lengths in front of last year's winner Watch The Birdie (Hannah Lewis) with Patrickm Boru (Jodie Hughes) a long way back in third and last place.

Anna, aged 17, who is studying for her A Levels, is the daughter of Mark Lewis and Bridget (nee Barton), both former successful riders and from a great point-to-pointing family.

There was not much between Tiger Rag and Watch The Birdie at the second last fence but the pacemaking Tiger Rag, given a cracking ride by his young rider who was only having her second ride in a point-to-point came to the aid of the 10 bookmakers who were in attendance.

A delighted Anna said on dismounting: "That was amazing, just great."

Byron Moorcroft from Cowbridge celebrated his 30th birthday by winning the mens open race on Kevin Salter's 10-year-old bay gelding Spencer Moon who incidentally is a son of Dr Massini who used to stand at the Dunraven Stud.

Spencer Moon, who was always prominent, came home a distance ahead of Kinari (James King) with Mr Burgess (Geoff Barmount-Saunt) a further distance away in third and last place.

Spencer Moon, who fractured an eye socket recently, is owned by Kevin Salter and trained by Kieron Price.

Jeffrey Bird's Repeat Business, joint favourite with Kinari, was never going well and was pulled-up.

Daniel Lewis, aged 13, won the 138cms pony race on his Clear The Track and Lily Llewellyn, aged 15, took the 148cms race aboard Class Act.

BRIAN LEE

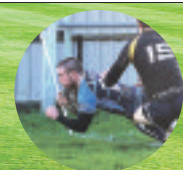




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## Lucky 13 for unstoppable Bridgend Athletic RFC

13 was certainly not an unlucky number for Bridgend Athletic as they recorded their 13th straight Division 1 West Central victory, going one better than three seven-try victories with their first eight-try tally of the season to record a 52-7 victory away at Seven Sisters.

The Athletic struck early in the third minute. Outside half Luke Bevan put them within five metres of the home try line with a well-struck 45 metre penalty to touch.

A driving lineout maul was halted, but scrum half Dan James darted through a gap to cross for his sixth try of the season. Bevan converted.

In glorious sunshine the next half hour was evenly balanced with both sides looking to play 15-man rugby in ideal conditions.



Caine Woolerton beats a defender on the way to scoring his try.

ALL PICTURES BY JOHN CANNON.

With five minutes remaining in the half full back Caine Woolerton ran out of defence and won a penalty. Bevan's touchline penalty kick set up a line out 20 metres from the Sisters try line.

A drive was halted but centre Tom Jenkins was held just short of the try line. Aled Thomas, acting scrum half, timed a short pass to flanker and captain Ben Howe

who dived low to cross for the second Ath try. Bevan converted to give the Athletic a 14-0 half-time lead.

The first minute of the game and the reason why Athletic youth full back Caine Woolerton has been awarded a full-time Ospreys Development contract.

A bouncing ball on half way saw hooker



Sean Williams crosses for his 10th try of the season.

Nathan Holman knock the ball backwards. Scrum half Thomas found Bevan who passed wide to Woolerton on his own 22 metre line.

The youngster beat seven players effortlessly gliding in Barry John like mode inside and outside would-be tacklers, before throwing a final dummy to cross in the corner completing a 75 metre run that had class

written all over it. Bevan converted from the touchline.

Four minutes later the Athletic put the game to bed with their fourth and bonus-point try. The front row Matthew Muir, Nathan Holman and Wayne Fooks aided by the back five drove Seven Sisters backwards on their own scrum put in five metres from the Sisters' try line to get the scrum reversed. Another drive saw No 8 Sean Williams pick up from the back of the scrum and run to the blind side to cross wide out. Bevan again converted.

Good driving play by locks Jamie Doherty and Jonathon Stoker put the Athletic on the front foot.

Centre Chris Price made a break and was held just short of the line, where another combination of Thomas and Howe saw Howe cross for his second try of the match and fifth of the season.

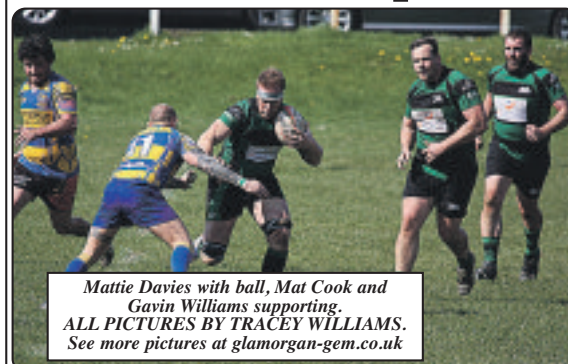
To their credit Seven Sisters kept their heads up and kept playing. An attempted Athletic interception saw the home side break through and quick inter-passing saw flanker Rhys Davies cross under the posts for a try converted by full back Ieuan Eltham.

The Athletic responded with good interpassing which saw Woolerton find Doherty who passed inside for Aled Thomas to cross for the sixth Athletic try. Bevan's conversion brought up the 40 points for the Athletic.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

KS

## Porthcawl warm up for Bowl final with avalanche of points



Mattie Davies with ball, Mat Cook and Gavin Williams supporting. ALL PICTURES BY TRACEY WILLIAMS. See more pictures at [glamorgan-gem.co.uk](http://glamorgan-gem.co.uk)

**FOLLOWING the 34-13 midweek win at Bryncoch, when tries were scored by Gareth Rees (3) Jon Phillips and Josh White, with White adding a penalty and three conversions, Porthcawl returned home to South Road and demolished Briton Ferry, keeping another clean sheet.**

With the WRU Bowl final this coming Sunday, the Seaweeds rotated the squad in certain positions but those who came in and started the match, did a fine job, the side racking up 13 unanswered tries on an afternoon perfect for running rugby.

Some outstanding tackling from flanker

Chris Blake allied to some fine passing and running from props Jamie Uren and Matt Cook were highlights of the match.

Flanker Jake Furness, in a rich vein of form at present, got things started by crossing for a try goaled by White for 7-0 after just a couple of minutes.

He was quickly followed to the try-line by wing Jordan Fox, with White again converting before tries by wing Jack Power and Jordan Skidmore for 24-0 and the bonus point secured inside 20 minutes, signalled a very long afternoon for the visitors, with Skidmore nabbing a hat-trick of tries himself on the day.

As Porthcawl ran the ball from everywhere, Briton Ferry just had no answer and before the break further tries from

centre Gareth Rees, another to get a hat-trick on the day following his same feat at Bryncoch, and Fox and Skidmore, all converted by White, brought the match to half-time at 45-0.

With a plentiful supply of good ball, the second half showed no let-up as the home side proceeded to make hay with the sun fully shining on some glorious play.

Centre Gareth Rees notched his second try followed by Skidmore with his third, both ably improved on by White's boot and 59-0.

Scrum-half Connor Rees, back in the UK following his travels, celebrated with a try converted by White followed by Power scoring his second try, converted by Gareth Rees and 73 without reply as the non-stop attacking play increased what was a cricket score.

When Connor Rees then grabbed his brace score, converted by White, with namesake Gareth grabbing his third, and adding the points himself, the 87-0 score simply highlighted the gulf between the two sides, with the match proving nothing other than being a good run-out for the Seaweeds and the Principality Stadium beckoning, where Pembroke will now be the opponents following Cardiff University being ousted from the competition for fielding ineligible players in the previous round.

TH

PF

## Bonus point win sees Maesteg Celtic promoted

**MAESTEG CELTIC** entertained third placed Builth Wells at Garth Welfare Park on a sunny warm day.

Builth kicked off and immediately put Celtic defence to the test, but determined tackling prevented an early score.

The game proceeded at pace with Celtic pack winning good ball. Both teams used the good conditions to play open rugby.

Celtic opened the scoring when lineout man Alex Jones won the ball on the Builth 22 and the three quarters ran the ball wide.

The visitors' defence was deemed offside in midfield and outside half Mathew Harris kicked the penalty. Celtic went further ahead when Harris made a break on halfway and put wing Sam Mines clear to run in a try. Harris converted.



Sam Mines scores Maesteg Celtic's first try

The home team increased their lead when centre Kristian Jenkins broke the Builth defensive line on halfway and passed to full back James Dixon who gave the ball to Mathew Harris.

He drew the cover and moved the ball on to captain Oliver Petty who put centre Lee Arthur

partner Mark Hillier-Rees over to score.

The pace of the game and the heat took its toll on the big Celtic pack and the smaller mobile Builth eight began to dominate play in the second half.

The intense pressure resulted in two tries early in the half. Celtic stuck to their task and Mathew Harris took a quick tap penalty on the ten-metre line and gave the ball to James Dixon who moved it on to Kristian Jenkins who scored the bonus point try under posts. Harris converted.

The Builth pack took control of the last 15 minutes and were rewarded with two more tries to give them two bonus points which were not enough to prevent Celtic gaining promotion to the First Division next season, the final score 29-24.

KS



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